

A

Short Account of the Life and
Transactions of

LEVI NATHAN,

In which is included Part of the
Life and Behaviour of
Mrs. Maria Parry,

Wife of Edward Parry, Esq;
Of Parry's - Castle, in the
County of Carmarthen,

L O N D O N.

Printed for the Author, LEVI NATHAN.

To the Public.

Altho' the following narrative is not adorn'd with flowers of rhetoric, yet it being a simple declaration of real facts, which are easily proved by living witnesses, it is hoped it may be of utility in preventing the unwary from being imposed on by the same or any other hypocritical pretenders to religion or morality be their profession either Jew or Christian. And whoever is so kind as to purchase one of these books may enjoy the heart felt satisfaction of having contributed something towards the relief of the innocent, but unhappy family of the distressed and ruin'd.

London April 1776.



Levi Nathan.



A

Short Account of the Life and Transactions of

LEVI NATHAN.

I Was educated in the city of Hamburgh, under the Rabbi Jonathan, and can produce from him proper testimonials of my life and conversation while under his tuition. I have travelled thro' various parts of Germany, Italy, France, &c. and preached in the synagogues in most of those places through which I passed. I came over to England about seventeen years ago, and took up my abode at the house of a gentleman, well known by all the people of the Jews, where I remain'd in as familiar a manner as though I had been his own child. I married in this house and continued in the greatest intimacy there till the twentyfourth of March 1776, on which day I waited on him to thank him for all his favours; I should be exceeding sorry to be guilty of the least shadow of ingratitude, but have been used so very ill by a son of that family whose transactions will take up no small part of the following pages, that I am obliged to break off all further connections with them, but as I have still a sincere regard for the gentleman as well as respect for the memory of his wife, who is no more, I shall forbear to mention his name at length, and am sorry on the family's account that I am obliged to mention him at all, but in vindication of my own character can't avoid it. Since my arrival in England, have been a dealer in second-hand cloaths, and about eight years ago one Mr. Mordicai Mordicai and myself form'd a society, for the benefit of our own people; in which we used to read the word of God to them, every evening. To this society I was clerk which place brought me in thirty pounds per annum, this place I am deprived of through the means of the son of the family before mention'd, and Mrs. Parry, and Mr. Mordicai now enjoy it. It may perhaps be thought a great piece of presumption in me to correct gentleman

gentlemen of learning and abilities so far superior to my own, but as I have been so many years a preacher. you must allow me to be in some measure acquainted with the bible.

It is frequently said by people who think themselves very wise, that if Solomon had lived in this enlighten'd age, he would have been no wiser than his neighbours, but if Mr M. A. had read the book of proverbs with attention, so as to profit by them, he would have avoided many errors which he is now guilty of, and for which I and my poor family are innocent sufferers, particularly the following passages. Proverbs chap. 2d. verse 16 and 17. chap. 5th. verse 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 10, 11, 18, 20. chap. 6, verse 24, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33. chap. 7, verse 5th. to the end of the chapter, chap. 8, verse 5. chap. 9, verse 17, 18. chap. 10, verse 7. chap 14, verse 10, 11, 15, 16, 17. 18. chap, 17 verse 1, 13. chap 18, verse 23. chap. 21, verse 23, 30. chap 22, verse 22, 23. chap. 23, verse 27, 28. chap. 24, verse 5. 6, 7, 8, 9, 16, 17, 25, 26, 27. chap. 25, verse 24. chap. 26. throughout chap. 27, verse 1, 2, 3. chap. 29, verse 3. chap. 30. verse 18, 19, 20, 30. chap. 31, verse 30, 31.

I have for some time past been look'd upon by most people who knew me, to be a very wicked man or a mad man, for bringing my poor wife and children to poverty and distress, and throwing away my place : on the other hand I have look'd on the elders of the synagogue and the president of the society as my bitter enemies, but I find I was much mistaken in this particular as they were unacquainted at that time, with the motives which induced me to act as I did and if I have made use of any language not pleasing to them in consequence of this my error in judgment, I sincerely ask their pardon and return them my unfeigned thanks for their candor and justice, in taking the part of my innocent and much injur'd family. I am extremely sorry I should act so imprudently, as to give them reason to judge me a very wicked person : but hope to make it appear to them and the whole world that I am as innocent as they thought me guilty, this will wipe off any stain on my character, but alas ! this will not recompence my poor injur'd family for throwing away my place, which was their support, not to trouble the reader any farther on this head, I shall now proceed to give an account (as concise as I can) of my first acquaintance with that wicked woman, who together with Mr. M. A. has been the author of all my misfortunes.

As I was going one day through Warwick-street by Charing cross in my way of business, crying clothes I, was call'd by one Mrs. Loffter, who is a washer woman, whose Husband was a porter at Lord Lede Spencer's, where she frequently goes a charing, and by that means draws most of her living from his Lordships kitchen, she has a lodging up one pair of stairs consisting of two rooms, one a fore room, where she lies herself, in the other there are sometimes men lodge.
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who are out of place, and sometimes girls who have no place. I bought of her some things, and she finding me to deal honestly by her, she desir'd me to call often; when I call'd again, she said a lady who lodged next door had some things to sell, and if I would stop she would call her, which she accordingly did, when she came I took her (from her appearance) to be a servant maid, she brought a hat and feather, with a gold band, I asked the price, but she asked so much out of the way, that I told her I could not buy it, but if she would send the band to a silver-smiths and have it weighed and whatever the silver-smith would offer I would give her three-pence more, which I accordingly did, when I paid her she made a kind of sham-grief, cry'd, heavenly father, how many hares have I shot in this hat, and I must sell it! She asked me at the same time if I could tell her of any place among the jews, as a service for her, there were more women which I supposed might lodge there, also asked me the same question, I look'd earnestly upon her, and seeing she had delicate hands, but otherwise look'd like a servant, the words of the Patriarch Isaac immediately struck my mind, the voice is Jacob, but the hands are the hands of Esau. I then asked her what place would suit her, whether a lady's maid, chamber maid, or kitchen maid, &c. she answered any place so as it was but in a Jewish family, I told her I would bring her an answer as the next day, when she was gone I asked Mrs. Loffter who she was, Mrs. Loffter began to tell me, that she was the wife of a gentleman, in Carmarthenshire, who was a justice of the Quorum, and posses'd of an estate, worth above a thousand pounds per annum. I desired Mrs. Loffter to tell the lady to meet me there the next day, which she accordingly did. I desired her to relate to me the whole story, but to adhere strictly to the truth, as I hoped it might be in my power to serve her, but if she deceived me she would certainly deceive herself.

She told me a long and pitious story of her being ill used by her husband, that it made my heart yearn for her. I then thought within myself humanity surely should induce some one to take her part, if the Christians will not, I will, so far as lies in my power. If her husband is a man honour he will pay me for my care of his wife, with thanks, if not, the law will certainly oblige him to pay all just expences, I told her I would call on her again the next day. I then went to a worthy gentleman of the Law, who has much business among the Jews. I related to him the whole story, as Mrs. Parry had told me. He told me He was much afraid she was not what she seem'd to represent herself, the reason he gave for this suspicion was thus, that we live under a government remarkable for succoring the distressed, let them be of what nation or profession soever, even jews, much more Christians, especially as the law would always support them in it, as it always leaned towards the side of the injured parties, and as she asked you for a place as a
servant

servant in a Jewish family looks very odd, unless she may hope to become a favourite of some male branch in the family where she may gain admission. Again, you may suppose if she were such as she represents herself, one cannot suppose she would be acquainted with such a person as that was who introduced her to you.

Again, it seems she hath an affidavit of the person with whom she was accused of being too intimate, testifying her innocence so far as to any unlawful conversation with him, if this be the case, it looks more dark of her side as one would not suppose an innocent person would think of having recourse to such an expedient unless requir'd by the Law, in course of trial, I also doubt, said the gentleman, whether this person's oath would be of any weight, as we may naturally suppose, that a Man who can be guilty of so black a crime as he and she are accused of, will not stick at any other, be it ever so atrocious.

My answer was this, "I cannot pretend to answer these objections myself, but if you please I will bring her to you, and you may examine her yourself." I accordingly brought her to him, and he did examine her and seemed to be very well satisfied with the account she gave him of herself. She left her certificate with a lawyer, who sent it to his correspondent, in Carmarthen, in order to prove whether she was the wife of Edward Parry, Esq. or not, and it was proved she really was. Upon this, the lawyer told me that the law would allow her a maintenance, I then offered to take her home to board and lodge with me, and the gentleman promised to carry on the law-suit and that he would employ a proctor. The next morning Mrs. Parry came to my house for her answer. I went with her to the sign of the three Herons, Cree Church-lane, Leadenhall-street, call'd for a room and six penny worth of rum and water, and there we talked farther of this business. I said, "madam you see I am but a poor man, that I am obliged to get my bread by my industry, you are the wife of a gentleman of fortune. If you can put up with such food as I am able to provide for my family, and such a place as I have, I am very willing to take you to lodge and board with me till the law-suit is ended, if not, you must look out for a place for yourself to abide at, and the gentleman will carry on the suit for you all the same."

Her answer was, "Sir, had I but victuals for three days in the week in your house, I should esteem myself happy to be under your roof, as you have shewn so much humanity towards me in my distress, that I esteem you as my father, friend and protector, but said she we must first consult your wife upon it, otherwise, it may create uneasiness in your family hereafter, as she may by and by be jealous." "I accordingly sent for my wife, who immediately came and acquiesced in Mrs. Parry's coming to lodge and board with us, saying, I am very well satisfied that my husband won't bring any

woman home to injure me; if he wanted such, he can get enough when he is out.

As I went with her to this public house, to see her home, we stop'd by a wall in Berry street, where she said, "look ye here Mr. Nathan, I owe some money in my lodgings, I shall be glad if you will pay that, and take Mrs. Rice's receipt, as it will look very odd should this debt be left, my husband may think anon that I have been a girl on the town." I agreed to pay it, we then made a most solemn vow, call'd heaven to witness: — she, that should she gain the suit, which seem'd very probable, and consequently come in for her part of the estate, in case of her husband's death, that she would live and die in my house, and leave what ever she should die possess'd of to my children. I, that should she miscarry in it, I would support her as long as she and I shoul'd live, and would share even the last morsel of bread between her and my children.

On the 15th. November 1773, I went and took Mrs. Parry home to my house, in a coach, and there came with us in the coach Mrs. Rice and her son. I call'd in to my house the master of the above mention'd publick house, and paid Mrs. Rice in the presence of him and her own son the debt which Mrs. Parry ow'd her, taking her receipt for the same, which the master of the public house sign'd as a witness, I must do Mrs. Parry the justice to allow that when she came to my house at first, I thought myself very happy in her conversation, which was polite and very entertaining, no wonder I have been deceiv'd into so many errors by this enchanting syren who has abilities with her tongue to deceive any one not superior to the human species.

I ask'd her one day, how it could be, that those of her own profession (she being an anabaptist) who are generally ready to assist any of their own people when distress'd, had never taken her cause in hand, especially those who knew her in her prosperity, when she lived in Carmarthenshire, as she must have undoubtedly many acquaintances who were people of property in her own native country: She answer'd, that her character had suffer'd so much on the account of the wicked reports spread there concerning herself and the bastard son of her husband, that they shew'd her little or no countenance; and since she came to London, she had employ'd several proctors and attornies, whose names she then mentioned to me, but could not carry it on, those gentlemen being so amorous, that her virtue was in danger when she went to consult with them about her suit; and that the reason of her desiring to leave her last lodgings was, that J—— R——, her landlady's son wanted to ravish her, and then desired that I would never admit any man into her company, as she had an utter aversion to the sex. When I have sometimes mentioned what this votress of Diana has said to me on this head to my own people, they have laugh'd at me, and said, "I am afraid she is of the right sort." I ask'd her, "Madam, it is surpriz-

ing, that you who seem to prize your chastity at so high a rate, should dare to venture yourself among the Jews, who are said to be much addicted to familiarity with the fair sex." She answer'd, " Sir, I entertain'd some thoughts of going over to America if I could get a passage, as I had been told that some captains would sometimes carry over a person who was of an agreeable conversation, for the sake of company, without requiring any pecuniary reward, but least this might prove a snare to my virtue, I went on my knees and prayed earnestly to God that he would direct me what to do: While thus employ'd in supplicating the Divine Providence for protection, behold, you seem'd to stand before me; I look'd upon it from that time, that you were design'd by that Being, whose aid I had been imploring, to be my protector, and that I as safely trust myself with you as with my guardian angel." I said, " Madam, we have nobody comes here that you need to be the least uneasy about; there is indeed a Jewish family who are very great friends to me, and who often visit here, and I visit them; they have a son a young man who comes sometimes, but as he seems in this matter to be intirely of your way of thinking, I hope you will have no objection to his coming; (and I am sure, there is not a Jew who was acquainted with M — A — at that time, but would have sworn for his good behaviour in this point at least) she answered, " Sir, your friends are my friends, and I shall always endeavour to shew them a proper respect as such, and hope you will do the same by mine. I have an acquaintance, a lady of fortune, one Mrs. —, who has promised to come here to see me; if she comes, I hope you will entertain her as a lady:" I said, I should be very glad to have it in my power to testify my respect to herself by shewing it to her friend, but should I come any thing short of what was due to the lady, she must attribute it to my incapacity.

Some time after this, Mr. M — A — came to my house on a visit, and Mrs. Parry and he liked each others conversation so well, that she ordered he might come as often as he chose, which I let him know; I am very sorry that I did, for after this his visits became in my opinion too frequent. When I went with Mrs. Parry to the attorney again, he desir'd her to give him in writing, the particulars of the libel which she intended to exhibit against her husband, that she might shew it to a proctor, she said, it would be so long that she could not write it herself, but would get some person to write it for her, and would wait on him with it; she accordingly got J — R —, her quondam landlady's son to write it for her; when we waited on the attorney with it, he said it was not proper to shew it in its present stile to the proctor, but if she would leave it with him he would revise it, and desir'd me to call on him again, and I observed he seem'd a good deal surprized at the contents of the paper. When I waited on him again, asked me, what old man

she had got to write this out for her? I told him was a young man, her former landlady's son; "Ah! cries he, it is no wonder he should want to ravish her when she tells him such stories; these secrets are not fit for the knowledge of a young man. Mr. Nathan, said he, I would have you take care what you are about; I am very much inclined to believe she is not so chaste a lady as she would fain have people to think; were I in your place, I would try her, and if she should prove what I suspect, you had best drop her acquaintance as soon as possible; if not, you will then have some just grounds to espouse her cause." I answered him, "Sir, our Rabbi says, Trust not thyself so long as thou livest,—If I take fire in my hand I must expect to be burnt; besides, what a villain must I appear, should she really be what she pretends, to offer rudeness to a lady who has put herself under my protection, not only in her eyes but in the eyes of the whole world, especially among my own people." He said, "Should you find it so, (which I very much doubt) you can easily prove that it was only to come at the truth, and that I advised you to it."

When I came home in the evening, she seem'd very jocular with me: As I was sitting by her, and she was telling me several entertaining stories, I thought I would try the experiment; I accordingly put my hand up to her cheek, and gave it a gentle pinch, upon which she drew herself back and exclaim'd, "Mr. Nathan, please to keep your hands further from my face—what do you mean by taking such liberties with me?" and made a very fine speech, which I cannot now recollect, but so warm'd my heart in her favour, that I thought if she was not a virtuous woman, there was not one upon earth, and immediately fell upon my knees, begged her pardon, and frankly told her the attorney had set me on to try her; she replied, the attorney had tried himself, and if he had succeeded, he would not have set me on, but meeting with a repulse, had sent me to affront her. Some short time after this, the lady of fortune before mentioned, Mrs. L——— came to pay her, (Mrs. Parry) a visit; and as she had before desired, I paid her all the respect in my power, but cannot say that I found her what I had reason to expect from the encomiums Mrs. Parry had before bestowed upon her: When she was gone, Mrs. Parry ask'd what I thought of her friend: I answer'd, "Madam, if you had not recommended her so very strongly, and I had met with her in Drury Lane or Covent Garden, I should have taken her for a street-walker, but as she is your acquaintance, I cannot suppose any such thing."

Mrs. Parry blushed very much, and said, "Mr. Nathan, I suppose Mrs. Lofster has been telling you something to the prejudice of this lady, I am sure she may hold her tongue, for I have heard that she had a bastard herself before she came to England." However, the lady paid her several visits, and I continued to shew her the respect which I thought due to the friend of Mrs. Parry.

After this, Miss A——, the sister of M—— A——, came to visit her, who has seen a great deal of company, and is a lady of much penetration; they had a great deal of conversation together, and Miss A——, among other things, ask'd Mrs. Parry, if it would be agreeable to go some evening to the play; she return'd for answer, that her pleasure-taking days were all over, and being an Anabaptist, it was quite inconsistent with her profession to go to any plays, operas, balls, or the like, or even to sing songs, read novels, &c. and as she had no husband here at present, she dare not be seen with any strange man; with whom should she go then, suppose every other objection was remov'd? Notwithstanding all this parade, she did go with M—— A—— soon after, I went to see Miss A—— home, and ask'd her opinion of the lady at my house? says she,

“ Mr. Nathan don't be affronted at what I am going to say, you
“ are a foreigner and married very young and consequently have not
“ seen much variety of the english ladies company, and are therefore
“ liable to be grossly impos'd on I am really sorry for you, for I believe her to be an artfull Jilting hyppocrite, and don't by any means approve of my brother being acquainted with her; however I will keep on to visit her that the world may not think oddly of his visits to her.

After this one Mr. M. who is an intended brother in law, to M. A. before mentioned, came to see me I was engaged with the society till eight o'clock in the evening, so he set with Mrs. Parry, and had a great deal of conversation with her, when he was going away I ask'd his opinion of that lady his answer was, much the same as that of Miss A. and signified that he had given her to understand that he had no very favourable opinion of her. Mrs. Parry. after he was gone, told me she desir'd that gentleman might not be allow'd to come to the house, any more as she found by his discourse that he was neither Jew or Christian. and she liked what ever a person professed they should strickly adhere to. this made me still have the greater opinion of her integrity, and to oblige her, I did not ask him to come any more, which made the gentleman think I was affronted at what he had said to me. After this, came one Mr. I. A. a brother of the before mentioned M. A. he gave his opinion much to the same purpose as Mr. M. their intended brother in law, had done before, and gave me to understand he was much afraid I should be drawn into some snare by so artfull a Person as she appeared (to him) to be, and that he had hinted to her his suspicion much in the same manner as M. had done.

When he was gone, she desir'd his visits might not be repeated, for he was a young rake and she must see no company, but such as feared God, and that she believ'd him to be such another as M—. And some considerable time after this, came B. A. another brother of M. A. who often travels into wales, he had a great deal of discourse with her, both in English and Welch, and when he took his

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leave, he told me he was griev'd to see that I was so wrapped up in that lady, fearing it might, in the end, do me very great injury, as he was well acquainted with the arts of designing woman, and that the Welch woman when they deviated from the paths of rectitude, were remarkable for cunning, and their treachery less liable to be detected than that of others; that in the course of their conversation she had told him what a sincere regard I had for her, and that his brother, M. A. had also shewn her very great respect, he said he then told her that though she might impose on poor innocent Nathan and his brother, she must not think to deceive him; he had seen a great many ladies, and he hoped gain'd so much experience as not to become the dupe of any one. I was very much affronted with what he said, and desired he would not come any more. This did this artfull Jezebell make me to fall out with my friends, one by one, till I had offended them all, yet so infatuated was I, that I would not see the approach of ruin till I felt its effects.

Mrs. Parry used to go almost constantly once a week to see Mrs. Rice (who is by profession a washer woman,) under pretence to help her iron, and sometimes stay out two or three nights together, either there or at Mrs. Rices daughter's (as she used to tell me) who lived by the Dog and Duck near St. Georges Fields, and when she used to come home again, sometimes at eight or nine o'clock in the evening, I. R. her former landlady's son, who she said had before attempted to ravish her, generally was her conductor. When she would return from these excursion's she would sometimes for a day or two seem very melancholy, and sigh, would eat little or nothing, which I much wonder'd at, and told her I should be very glad she would never go there, as it was very disagreeable to me to see her so unhappy when she came home.

I us'd to call on Mrs. Rice and Mrs. Lofster almost every day, as it laid in my way, to acquaint them how Mrs. Parry did, and one day when I happen'd to call, I found there a woman who came from Wales, and was going to return to Carmarthen, who said she wanted to see Mrs. Parry, to know if she had any commands to that place, Mrs. Rice ask'd me if Mrs. Parry would not come over this week to help her iron, at which I was very angry within myself, but took no notice at that time I acquainted Mrs. Parry with it, she accordingly went out on the thursday and said she should not be at home till saturday night. I went on the saturday night to fetch her, thinking to save the gentleman the trouble to come with her, and at the same time hoping to bring her home in better spirits, when I came, she seem'd very glad to see me, and went home with me, but was very lame, her foot was so swelled that she could not walk without slipping her shoe down at the heel. I asked her how she came to be lame, she said she had caught cold by lying three in a bed, and had stood all day to iron, which not being used to, had caused her foot to swell.

The next day her foot was so bad that she could not stand on it at all, neither cou'd have her shoe on, only a slipper, I desir'd she would let me see it, or if not, I would send for a surgeon, her answer was that she would sooner die than shew her foot to any man in the world, on this I dropped it and ask'd her more, the day after, I came home in the evening, she was sitting with her stocking off and her foot cover'd over, says she, Mr. Nathan, I have something to shew you and immediatly shew'd me her naked foot and leg, much higher than I had any occasion or desire to look, her foot was to be sure very much inflam'd and swell'd and I further observ'd the joints of her toes were red and seem'd very stiff (and now I recolected the knuckles of her fingers were often affected in the same manner, so that she could not work with her needle) probably some disorder which lay conceal'd, and having infected the bones, now and then makes its appearance in this manner.

I am told, this frequently happens to those who too often gratifie a certain carnall appetite, however, this I did not suspect her of at that time, she being as I supposed a lady of an exemplary life. I said to her look here Mrs. Parry, I desire, nay must insist on it, that you go no more to Mrs. Rice, for when I was there the other day, you know there was a woman enquiring for you, who was going to Carmarthenshire, Mrs. Rice ask'd me before this woman if you would not come this week to iron for her, can you think this woman will not tell your husband of this, how, think you, then will he pay me for your maintainance, he will not believe you do it in friendship to her, but will naturally think you are paid for it, and by that means get your living, and will be furnish'd with a very good plea for not paying me for your board. Secondly, when ever you come from thence, you seem always displeas'd and melancholy, and its generally a day or two before we can get you in spirits again, what this springs from I know not, but this much I know that there must be a cause although you chose to keep it from my knowledge. Thirdly when you are there, you sit at table with the chairwoman, who is a soldier's wife, and consequently not a fit companion for a lady of your character; when at home you will not suffer my children to eat even in the room with us, and I humbly hope they are at least as good as the company you eat with at Mrs. Rice's. Fourthly, you are now lame, and very possibly may (tho' god forbid) come to be laid quite up with it, the expence will certainly fall upon me for the present however, and what is worst of all, you will not allow me to have the advice of the faculty.

She answered that she was affraid to drop Mrs. Rice's acquaintance lest when her tryal came on, she should refuse to give her a character, for that while she was at her house, she was out once all night, that Mrs. Rice had often cast this in her teeth, and she was apprehensive she would, should she disoblige her, make use of this on her tryal, to her disadvantage. I said, that when a person was

put to their oath, they were obliged to give even an enemy such a character as they deserved, without their being obliged to work for them in order to gain their favour, so that in that respect her fears were intirely Groundless. On this she agreed to quit her intirely, and desired me to call and tell Mrs. Rice that she had got the gout which I did, when I told Mrs. Rice this, she and her chairwoman set up a loud laugh, saying, they were surprized Mrs. Parry should have that disorder, they were sure it was not inherent in her family, for they always work'd away the Gout.

Mrs. Parry went no more to Mrs. Rice, except on a visit, and that but very seldom, but staid at home, and found ample consolation for the loss of these excursions in the company of her more particular friend M. A. she used constantly to attend the anabaptist meeting near devonshire-square, (where Mr. M^r Gowan preaches) every sunday and thursday, and always complain'd at her return that she was continually pestered with courtiers, from the anabaptists, but her friend M. A. undertook to release her from these offensive lovers, for he now began to take every step to oblige the lady he used to escort her to and from the meeting constantly, and if it chanced to rain would be very expeditious in running home to fetch her old cloak &c.

One sunday after coming from the meeting, she sat by herself and cry'd very much and appear'd to be very much distress'd, I ask'd her the reason, she said her heart was almost broke, to see the congregation receive the sacrament, and she was obliged to sit in the gallery and be a spectator, only, and could not be a partaker with them. I asked why she could not, she said, not being a member of this congregation, they would not admit her to the sacrament. I advised her to write to her sister, and desire her to wait on the minister of the congregation where she formerly belonged and I made no doubt, but a letter from him to Mr. M^r Gowan, would be of sufficient weight for her admision to the sacrament for the time to come she said she had wrote to her sister who had not answer'd her letter and would write to her no more, and she heard that there had been reports spread down in the country that she had been seen in the Park and divers other public places, dress'd in an elegant manner, and that this had been construed much to her disadvantage, which she supposed to be the reason of her sister's neglecting to answer her letters, and as there had formerly been such a wicked report spread at Carmarthen concerning her and her husband's bastard son, which many had been so weak as to believe; that she fear'd she she was intirely cut off from that congregation.

I then propos'd to her, to write to her father, she said she did not care to write to him, for he was one of Mr. Parry's bottle companions, and would tell him all he knew of her and as her mother in law was a very Intimate acquaintance of Mr. parry's for a long time, she made no doubt but she would even shew him her lettars.

at last I did prevail on her to write to her Sister and desired her to add a few lines in my name, in which I treated her very roughly for which I sincerely ask her pardon, for since I have discover'd what a hypocrite Mrs. Parry is, I find she did not deserve it, but had very good reason for her conduct towards her, however, at length, she receiv'd two letters from her sister one by the post and one was brought her by a Mr. Jones, but which she had first I cannot recollect, she inform'd her as she told me that she was not cut off from the congregation yet, owing to some dispute among themselves, after this she seem'd to be very happy in my house and enjoy'd her friends; was in very good spirits, and grew quite fat. and complain'd her stays were too small for her, by an hand's breadth, said she did not like to go out for she having always look'd very thin, people would think very strange of her so suddenly growing fat. I asked her what could be the reason of it she said it was eating mustard and drinking of twopenny, which she believed she must leave off.

From this time I would not let her have any more mustard or twopenny, but gave her porter to drink, but giving an implicit credit to every thing this lady said, I gave my wife and children so plentifully of mustard in order to fatten them, that I had well nigh kill'd them.

Some time after this, Mrs. Parry was taken suddenly very ill and kept her bed some days. when my wife went in the morning to make her fire, she desired her to leave her to herself as soon as she had lighted it and not to come in any more all day. when I heard this, I went in, told her I was very sorry for her indisposition and desired she would permit me to send for a doctor, or a nurse or both. she cried, no, no, Mr. Nathan, leave me to myself, if you send for any body, I'll absolutely get up, Ill as I am, and go out of the house. When Mr. M. A. came he went into her room and staid some time with her, then went out and brought her some wine; made some of it hot for her, which she drank, he likewise brought her some chocolate, the next day she had some herb tea, but who brought the herbs, or what they were, I know not, but they were brought either by him or Mrs. Loffter. however, Mr. A. was her chief nurse, and executed that office with great tenderness, till she recover'd.

This sickness pulled down her fat intirely, for as soon as she got up again, she complained to me of it, that whereas before her stays were an hand breadth too small, they were now full as much too big; that now she should be glad to go out, but her foot continued so much swell'd that she could not yet bear her shoe up at the heel.

I sent for a Jew shoe-maker, to measure her for a pair of shoes when he came Mr. A. and myself were in the room with her, she desired we would both go out, I askd her why? she said, she could not

not shew her foot before a man. Now the reader will remember that she had shewn me her foot and leg too before, this made me begin to suspect her, But so blind was I, that I construed every thing in her favour, and immediately conjectur'd that Mr. M. A. being a young Man, she did not choose to indulge him with the sight. we went ont, and the shoe-maker so cleverly got the length of her foot, that he continued to be her favorite workman. One time came a Mr. Jones, a Welch stay-maker, to measure her for a pair of stays- and so delicate was this lady's modesty, that she would not take her gown off but the man was obliged to take the measure over all her clothes. however, the man insisted since she would not let him take the measure in a proper manner, that she should take the stays when he brought them home, altho' they should not fit her. the consequence was, that they where made too big, and I had to pay for stays for her which were of little service.

I went to the lawyer, and acquainted him with every thing (in her favour) that had come to my knowledge, he said, he had no correspondent at Carmarthen, and really he had not so favourable an opinion of the lady as I seem'd to entertain, and in short, did not choose to have any thing to do with it but if I lik'd, I might go to the proctor, and if he would carry on the suit, he might, I went to Mr. P. the proctor, he told me, he had sent down a citation a long time, but had not receiv'd any answer, and he would not carry on the cause without ready money, but would advise me, to send down an especial original writt, and arrest Mr. Parry for his wifes board &c. that this will be a means of bringing him to some agreement for in the commons it would in all probability lye for a very long time, but by arresting him he must either pay the money or go to jail.

I acquainted M. A. of this and ask'd him to assist me with a little money for the writt, he answer'd, to serve Mrs. Parry he would part with his last half-penny, but as to me he would not assist me with a farthing. I went to several lawyers, they all agreed in opinion with Mr. P. but not one would take one step without the money. I spoke to a jewish priest who belonged to the society, his name is M. G. I well knew that this person did business for a certain gentleman in the way of usury. I ask'd him to assist me with twenty pounds to take out the writt, and I would enter into an agreement with him, he said he would, but should like first to speak to the lady, and know if every thing was right, which he accordingly did. while he was there, came in Mr. Jones, who some time before brought the letter, and often us'd to visit Mrs. Parry, Jones and she conversed together for some time in welch, looking first at M. G. then at me, at last M. G. went out, she seem'd to be much grieved. when Jones was gone, I ask'd what he had said to her to occasion her grief, she said if he should come again, she desir'd I would tell him she was not at home, for, says she, he talks so much against the jews that I can't bear him, and wants me to leave your

house, and go to live with him, saying it is a great sin to live among the jews, as they even defile a christian by sitting by them, and if I will turn whitfieldite, he will take care of me in spiritual matters,

As the reader may possibly forget this passage, I would here make a remark since I have discover'd Mrs. Parry's, deceit, I was one day with Mr. Jones, who told me he was very suspicious of her, and did not in the least doubt what I said of her, and at this time above mentioned, they had the conversation in which she told him that I was the best friend she ever met with, and had done that for her which no christian would do, notwithstanding, she for the sake of her religion, wished herself out of my house, for we were continually teasing her to turn jewess, there, says she, sits a priest whom they have brought to persuade me to renounce christianity. but to return to my story, the priest and I, could not agree about the money, so we were obliged to let Mr. P. go on with his citation, Mrs. Parry, had very often visitors of her country people, who were of but a very indifferent appearance, once in particular, came a young woman to see her who I found, by Mrs. Parry's, account of her when gone was no better than a girl of the town. I was very angry, and told her I must not have any such person come to my house, that she well knew that I had a society of gentlemen who met there, and very possibly some of these girls might one time or other be known by them, and I should get the character of keeping a bawdy house. she said she was a stranger, and had no acquaintances but her country folk, and if she must have none of them, but those of unspotted reputation, come to see her, she must have none at all, for there was not one girl in twenty that ever came away from wales before she had a bastard or two.

A week before our passover Mrs. L. a lady whom the reader may remember has been before mentioned, ask'd Mrs. Parry, to come and spend a week with her, and as we are at that time very busy in washing and cleaning, I fear'd lest Mrs. Parry, might catch cold, and thought it the properest time for her to go, and accordingly she went and staid till the saturday, and on saturday morning she came to Mrs. Rice's house, from whence M. A. and myself fetch'd her, when we came there, she seem'd very much displeas'd and was writing a letter which she left with Mrs. Rice to give to her son. As we went home I ask'd her what letter that was she left with Mrs. Rice, she told me that Mrs. Rices son had grossly affronted her at Mrs. L—s. that there were several gentlemen there and one of them she thought much resembled her husband's son. that she happen'd to say that gentleman was so like Neddy Parry, that did she not know he could not be there, she should have really thought it had been him; that I. R. made answer that she had better try him and she would soon know whether it were he or not, at which she was so much offended that she had wrote that letter forbidding him ever to speak to her any more, and desir'd me if he came to my house not to let him see her.

see her alone, I told her I did not understand it so, she said that as the gentleman spoke in a very polite manner, and I not being very perfect in the english language I possibly might not understand his meaning. The next time we went, She went in and spoke to him by herself, and I waited below for her, She staid with him a long time; at last She came down and call'd me up to him, and went up with me, he told me he would do every thing in his power, both to forward her suit in the commons, and endeavour to recover what was due to me, from her husband.

When we went home, she told me that the gentleman persuaded her to accept of the following proposal from him, he would take care to procure her a divorce from Mr. Parry, and would give her five hundred guineas to set her up in a Millener's-shop, and she should have the liberty to draw on him for five hundred more, and that he would likewise give her two hundred guineas for a present to me, and further said, that he treated her with great indecency and that She did not care to go to him any more. I said, madam, it is very surprizing to me, that wherever you go, you always meet with these temptations, suerely there must be something very extraordinary in your person more than I can see, that almost every man you converse with, should immediatly fall in love with you, in my humble opinion, this gentleman, for so large a sum as you say he offers, might certainly have gain'd the favour of your superiors in point of beauty, as the markets go at present. Mr. Nathan, said she, when these gentlemen think a woman is truly virtuous, they will stop at nothing, in order to conquer that rigid chastity, they are not fond of too easy a conquest, and that is the only reason why modest woman meet with so many insults from them.

Be it as it may, this gentleman behaved very honourable to us both in regard to the law business, he recommended her to another gentleman to carry on her suit in the commons, who however would not accept of it till I had discharged Mr. P—'s Bill, which I did, and M. A, borrow'd the money for that purpose, and I have now the receipt to shew, He likewise recommended me to an attorney (to execute my business with her husband,) to whom he gave me the character of an honest man, who would pay when his money is due, this to my sorrow I have not done, for this wicked woman has entirely ruined me. However, I hope sometime or other to have it in my power, to pay him, and every one else to whom I stand indebted, and if I am so lucky as to have so great a demand for this work as I have reason to expect, make no doubt of being able to do it very soon. And here I would acknowledge the obligation I am under to this last mentioned gentleman, for the indulgence he has shewn me in waiting with so much patience for what is justly his due.

About this time one Sally Lewis came to see Mrs. Parry, and brought with her a Welch-man, one E—ns, whom at first Mrs. Parry affected not to know, but they enter'd into discourse together, and by what follows we may suppose they were well acquainted, a few days after, she took me with her to see him, they talk'd a considerable time together in Welch below in the shop, and afterwards went up stairs together, what they did there I know not, but should have suppos'd there was no occasion for going there to talk of secrets, because there was no body below who understood their language. be it as it will, not long after this he paid her an unseasonable visit at 12 o'clock at night, it was very hot and I happen'd to look out of the window, and saw him with his feet on the ground, and his head and part of his body in at Mrs. Parry's window; which he afterwards drew out, and I was told by the neighbours that they saw him get out at the window, when I ask'd Mrs. Parry, about this, she made but a very lame excuse: another time he came at past two in the morning, it then rain'd very hard and Mrs. Parry, came out of her room, saying Mr. Nathan here is E—ns come again, I look'd out at the window, saying, you fellow, what do you want? he made no answer, I call'd the watch and he ran off.

The next day I ask'd Mrs. Parry what business that man could have with her at such unseasonable hours, she told me a cock and a bull story that she suspected he was employed by the opposite party, meaning her husband, to seize and carry her off: I went and acquainted the Proctor and the gentleman who recommend me to him with this who were of opinion that to stir in it would do more hurt than good: so this affair was dropt as it might hurt her character.

One saturday afternoon (soon after this) my family being all gone out (except Mrs. Parry, who supposed me gone with them) M— A— came to pay her a visit. I accordingly happen'd to come in, and found them standing in a very amorous posture, he had one arm round her waist and the other round her neck, and seem'd to be kissing her, they were to all appearance very much confused at my unexpected coming in, but in order that they might recover themselves from their surprize, I shut the door immediately and went out, in the evening, I said, Mrs. Parry I believe M— A— was kissing you this afternoon, o dear no! says she, he was only shewing me how the gentleman behaves, who offer'd me so large a sum of money lately mentioned: but so far from kissing me, I don't believe he is a man; if he was, it is impossible for him, to be so much alone with a woman; without discovering an inclination of that sort, which he has never done to me yet. I ask'd how should he know how the gentleman behaved? he was not there to see it, I fancy, madam, you were shewing him, was you not? this she turned off with a laugh.

Two days after this Mrs. L— call'd to see Mrs. Parry, and went to the synagogue, after which she went some where to dinner, having been pre-engaged; after dinner she call'd again, and desir'd Mrs. Parry to go with her as far as Billingsgate, when they came there, she ask'd her to go into the Salutation Tavern, where three or four young men of their acquaintance, was in waiting for them, and wanted her to go with them from thence to Mrs. L—s, house, this Mrs. Parry absolutely refus'd, saying, she would not for shame go, as she knew our family expected her home, then as she told me, Mrs. L—replied you can't go with us I suppose because you can't part with your godly A—. Mrs. Parry was very much offended at this speech, and told Mrs. L— to take care what she said, Mr. A. was a gentleman of fortune, he had six thousand pounds in the bank, and all his brothers and sisters had four thousand pounds each, which Mrs. L. firmly also believed.

When she came home, she told me what had pass'd, and desir'd that she might be no more admitted to my house, or any of their crew; when M. — A. was gone, she said, I wonder how that woman, meaning Mrs. L— dare to be so saucy to me, when she knows that her life and her mother's are both in my hands. She then told me that Mrs. L— had lived with a mantua maker, where she had a bastard child, and lay inn at her mother's house, by good luck the child soon died, and after this she went with Mrs. Parry to Vauxhall, and there met with an elderly gentleman who treated them with supper, wine, &c. and afterwards took the young lady home, as his mistress, having not lived with his wife some years, this gentleman's name was A—n. and lived somewhere near Newington, and Mrs. Parry, told me that while she lived with Mrs. Rice, that she has often lain there herself, this same gentleman used to visit Mrs. Parry, at my house, once or twice in a week, before she told me this story, and some short time afterwards, having had a quarrel one day with his mistress he turn'd her off.

After this she met F—L—esqr; who having likewise grown tir'd of his wife, took her to be his mistress, with whom she continues at present. Mrs. Parry told me that this Esqr. had a suit with his wife in the commons, and that it was carry'd to such a length that he was out law'd, and now he goes by the name of R— and shew'd me the house where he lived, and further told me that his wife lived in chancery lane, and advised me to inform against him and I should get a very great reward; and desired me to tell Mrs. Rice to make her son and daughter keep their tongues, for that one Mrs. Howard had told me the whole affair: I accordingly did tell Mrs. Rice, but meddled no farther in the matter, but I listen'd to the story only to see how far a woman's revenge will go.

A little after this Mr. A—n came to visit Mrs. Parry, as he frequently used to do, sitting with her four hours together, in the parlour by themselves. I told Mrs. Parry that as she had said he

was a person of none of the best of characters, with regard to the fair sex, I thought it would be but prudent in her to drop his acquaintance, for as he was pretty well known in the neighbourhood, people might think strange of his visits to her, and place them to a criminal account, and might also imagine that I connived at it; this request she complied with. About this time Mr. P.— the proctor, inform'd me that he had received a letter from his correspondent in the country, acquainting him that Mr. Parry had been cited the 6th of June 1774.

On this I made out the account of what Mrs. Parry was indebted to me to the abovesaid 6th of June. which account she sign'd. Mr. P.— told me he could not go on with the suit till I should furnish him with money to defray the expences. I mentioned this to M. A— who seem'd very glad to have it in his power to confer a favour on Mrs. Parry, and accordingly brought me some few guineas, which I carried to a very worthy Jewish gentleman (well known in London, both by Jews and Christians.) desiring him (as he is well vers'd in the law) to wait on Mr. P.— with it, which he accordingly did, and brought me the proctor's receipt for the same as receiv'd from me. After this. I observed that M. A— us'd to take greater liberties with Mrs. Parry, he would frequently pinch her face, till her cheeks would be quite bruis'd with his uncouth familiarities. I asked her why she suffered him to make so free with her, she said she did not like to be so teased with him, for he was always very childish, and play'd like a Fool.

Sometimes when I have come in, I have found them sitting closer together than I could think was consistent with the extreme delicacy of this lady, and took the liberty to ask her the reason of this also? she said he was continually talking to her about religious matters, which was very disagreeable to her as she had no mind to change her sentiments in so important a concern. The next time I saw M. A— I spoke to him about this, and desir'd him to desist, telling him that as this lady was under obligations both to him and me, that I did not think it consistent with gentility to take that advantage, for possible tho'she might be very angry at it, She might be afraid to shew it for the above reason: and therefore desir'd he would be quite silent on this head for the future, which Injunction he promised to observe.

The Reader will please to remember that M. A— before this, said he would assist Mrs. Parry, with money, but not me, for the money just now mention'd was not to help me to recover my due from her husband, but to carry on her suit in Doctors Commons, however, I was introduced to a gentleman to whom I took Mrs. Parry and he recommended us to an eminent Attorney, who heard what we had to say, and desired us to call again, as we went home, Mrs. Parry told me, that he gave her to understand he would wish to

By this answer I found that she understood my meaning very well, I said again, but madam, if you was to marry me you must turn jewess, she answer'd, if she was to marry me, she should have no objection. Some short time after this we were discoursing about religion and she declar'd she would suffer herself to be burnt rather than renounce christianity, I said, madam, I believe you have forgot what you said to me but a few days ago. She said that would not be renouncing it, for where it not right to do what she then said she should be willing to do, on these conditions, God would never put it in her heart to do it. I only mention this by the way to give the reader some idea of this Lady's faithfulness. However, to give the Lady her due, she did take some pains to instruct the children in reading the english tongue, but so soon as her philosopher came, be it by day or night, the children must be sent immediately out of the room, to this I us'd to object, but in answer she always made use of an old adage that little pitchers have long ears, this seem'd to confirm my suspicion, that there were secrets between this chaste couple that would not bear the light, and what these secrets were I was determin'd to find out if possible.

According one saturday afternoon, I laid me down on my couch in the parlour, M—A—and she sitting there at the same time, she was very officious in drawing the curtains close lest I might catch cold, but did not draw them so close but I had a peep-hole. I feign'd myself to be asleep, and soon found they were happy to be rid of me, as they thought, they were soon seated very close together, his arm round her neck, and his other hand engaged where decency forbids me to mention; and seem'd to kiss each other with much rapture: and I could observe her make motions to him to be wist lest they should wake me. I was much shocked at this discovery, and knew not how to behave to them, if I should tell them what I had seen, she would most likely leave my house, and I should lose the money she owed me; and if I took no notice of it, they would perhaps go to greater lengths, and I should get a bad character for suffering such things under my roof. However, when I go up our philosopher took his leave, when he was gone, I laugh'd and seem'd to be very merry, she was very desirous to know what occasion'd my mirth, I told her I had seen a dream which I would not have been without for a great deal, she press'd me very much to tell it to her, I told her, I did not care to tell her then, but would tell her in the morning. The reason of my deferring to tell her before was this, she used when ever she went out to shake me by the hand, but one funday, having a little displeas'd her, she went out without observing the friendly ceremoney, and when I ask'd her the reason she said, it was not for any dislike. but her religion strickly forbid her touching any man's hand before she went to meeting, I thought I had now a fair opportunity to try the truth of this assertion.

The next morning she took an opportunity to claim my promise, of telling her my dream, I answered madam I'll shew it to you, and

caught her round the neck and began to kiss her, there madam, said I, is half the dream I saw between you and M—A— the other part as I am a married man, I must beg to be excused from shewing you, for I dont like he should take these liberties, she answered, sir if you choose to take the liberties which M—A— did you are very welcome, with this proviso, that you shall promise me never to kiss my lips: for I can take a safe oath, if required, that no Jew ever kiss'd my lips in my life. I said madam I have been very much deceiv'd I took you for a virtuous woman, which was the reason I was so delighted with your conversation, as to liberties, of that kind, I do not desire to take with you or any one else, if I did I should choose a beauty superiour to my wife, but how can I (think you) expect Mr. Parry to pay me for your maintenance when here are such doings carried on between you under my roof.

She promised me that I should see no more of it, that She did not like it, but that fool was always teasing her, and that what had pass'd amounted to no more than Innocent foolery, this I knew to be a falsity but how to act seem'd a difficult quere, the reader may perhaps ask why I did not take the most concise method viz. to forbid him coming there any more, to this I answer that I was indebted to him, and therefore I durst not downright affront him. However, the lady kept her promise so far, that I saw no more such behaviour, for they took care to act in such a manner as they knew would drive me out of the room. I went in the afternoon to Mrs. Loffter, and gave her some slight account of what had happen'd, she smiled and said, I fancy there is a little misunderstanding between you and M—A—.

It may naturally be supposed that I now dislik'd them both, as I was now convince'd that their intimacy had a criminal tendency, but how to be rid of them without bringing ruin on my family I knew not, as I was a great deal of money out of pocket, and there was no way of my being recompenc'd unless I could by law, oblige Mr. Parry to pay me. A few days after she said to me, Mr. Nathan, I can't bear to see you distress yourself and family on my account, but have thought of an expedient to assist you, M—A— will let you have half a guinea per week, if you will give me a receipt in full of all demands every time you receive it, I was much surpriz'd at this extraordinary proposal, and said look here, madam, you very well know your agreement with me was, to give me a guinea per week, how then can you desire me to take half a guinea, besides if M—A— has taken such liberties in my house before, what will he not do, when he pays for your being here, and how can you think I shall ever be able to discharge the debts, I have contracted already on your account, put all these together, and I am perswaded you will yourself see the absurdity of such a proposal, and desist from pressing it any further; however, all I could say to her was of no avail, she said I should not distress my family on her account,
and

I now began to suspect them very much, consequently became a closer observer of their proceedings than heretofore. I have frequently hinted to M— A— that I did not approve of their familiarities, but he never would seem to comprehend my meaning. One day Mrs. Parry told me, that notwithstanding he would not take any notice of these distant hints of mine, he was far from being ignorant of what I meant by them, and if I did not desist he would very probably leave off coming to the house, for though she had taken him (by his childish manner of playing and toying with her) to be a fool, she found by experience that he was a Philosopher. I now began in some measure to conceive wherein this gentleman's philosophy consisted, and when I had occasion to speak of him to this lady, I always stiled him the foolish philosopher, because I find this lady's definition of a philosopher is one that brings the matter close home at last.

From this time they seem'd to be much more cautious before me, but now they began to go out very frequently together, sometimes saying they were going to meeting, and sometimes some other excuse. However, one day I went with them, and in our walk we met a little girl, who I found was acquainted with Mrs. Parry, they stood and talk'd together for some time, when she was gone I asked who she was, she told me it was one Miss J—s, a barbers daughter in the strand, that she (Mrs. Parry) used frequently to be at her fathers house, sometimes whole days together, before she came to live with me, but was obliged to leave it as she found her virtue closely besieged by a young gentleman who used the house; that he once attempted to give her a quantity of cantharides which he had infused in some beer, but she was so lucky by a timely discovery of this artful piece of villainy, to avoid the direfull effects of this amorous potion; that after this he finding this diabolical plot had failed, had recourse to another expedient, much in practice in the present age, and which in the general produces the desir'd effect, namely, bribery, he offered to settle on her four hundred pounds per annum if she would only, in return, permit him to triumph in the ruins of her honour; and that Mrs. J—s very much persuaded her to comply with his request, and on this account she was obliged to quit the house, concluding this, (by way of ejaculation) I thank kind providence that has directed me to your house, where I dwell in quiet without endangering the safety of that inestimable jewel which so many of the children of belial have used every stratagem in their power to rob me of.

Notwithstanding all this parade about chastity, there is great room to believe this seeming paragon of virtue, is a very woman; and that our philosopher was not insensible of the charms of the amiable Mrs. Parry. He seem'd to desire to anticipate her wishes in every thing, if she gave but the most distant hint of any thin

she wanted, he immediately procured it for her, and his happiness seem'd as it were to center in rendering himself agreeable to her. About this time he made her a present of a sacque and peticoat of tiseu brocade together with many other things of value, which I cannot now recollect, I must acknowledge Mrs. Parry's company when she first came to my house was really very agreeable, her conversation was enlivening and she has often dispell'd the gloom from my spirits (occasioned by crosses in my business in the course of the day) by reading and speaking to me in the evening, but no sooner did this intimacy between our phylosopher and she commence, than this was all drop'd, instead of her reading he must read which I could hardly understand, for beside his being no scholar, he had such a disagreeable snuffing in his nose that it was pain to hear him, when I complain'd to her that she did not endeavour to entertain me in that engaging manner she used to do, she answered what can I do Mr. Nathan, you see what obligations I am under to this man, he wants to improve himself, and I let him read. in order that I may instruct him, so she became a kind of a school-mistress to him, and indeed I believe she taught him more than he ever knew before.

One day she ask'd me if I would learn her Hebrew language, and in return she would learn my children english; to this I agreed though at the same time I only thought her in jest, however, she soon became a proficient, but her admirer M. A— soon took my pupil under his tuition, I suppose in return for her good office in learning him to read english as well as was before mentioned I began to think there was something dark and misterious in this conduct of Mrs. Parry, as well as in that of our phylosopher, Sometime before he became so intimate with that lady; he courted a young lady, sister to a neighbour of his, and was suppos'd to be upon the point of marriage, since he became so enamour'd with Mrs. Parry, he broke of all further connections with his intended bride, this together with Mrs. Parry's, wanting to learn Hebrew, and being very fond of prying into the tenets of the jewish religion, gave me reason to suspect a deeper scheme between them, than perhaps the reader is aware of. In order to satisfy my curiosity in this particular I took an opportunity one day as I was walking with her to discourse her in the following manner. Mrs. Parry, said I, it is something very extraordinary, that you and I should become acquainted and have so great a regard for each other, seeing I am a Jew, and you are a Christian, when I was young I had some skill in fore knowledge and by this I know that I am to have two wives, and should really think you were ordain'd by providence to be my second, when ever I shall be at liberty to marry, did not the difference of our religion forbid such union between us. She answer'd, sir, I dont think of ever marrying any more, but if I did and you where at liberty, I would marry you though never so poor, in preference, to M—A— where he the richest man in London.

and if I would not come into this, she would leave my house, and I should never know what became of her, I knew not what to do, but for the present told her I would consider on it.

The next day she came to me in the Kitchen, Oh! Mr. Nathan, says she, how many obligations am I already under to you, how honourable and disinterested do you act, happy am I that you refused to take the half guinea per week from M. A. how true was that observation of yours that if he had used great freedom with me before, he would certainly use greater when he paid for my board, he behaved so very freely last night that I would sooner work my fingers to the bone than that you should take it of him: I was exceeding happy to hear her talk in this strain and in some measure brought her into my good opinion again. But this was but of short duration, for in the evening our Philosopher came, and she started the subject again, saying, that M. A. and she had considered of what has been before related, and were come to this determination, that I should either take from him the half guinea per week, or she would quit my house, as was said above, at last I consented to take it, but would not give her any receipt, only would give him a kind of note signifying that I owed him so much money, which I would repay him when the Law-suit should be ended, this they agreed to (and I observed winked at each other the meaning of which I did not then understand.

On or about the 24th. of February 1775, M. A. wrote on a bit of paper what he called a note which I signed, and he gave me half a guinea and continued to do this weekly till about the midsummer following, now the reader will be pleased to understand that as I can't read or write English, I knew not what I signed, but as they told me, and herein it will be seen anon that I was most cruelly abused. Soon after this M. A. began to use such freedoms in my house as I had before predicted, he was continually there, and in a great measure exercised the authority of master over us all, when he came my wife and children were obliged to sit in the kitchen, as though they had been servants, or something more mean, and I though I was permitted to sit in the parlour durst hardly speak a word for fear of giving offence.

I bore this with patience through the week, in hopes to have an opportunity of enjoying myself with my family on the friday night (as it is customary with the Jews) but before we could swallow our morsel M— A— was there, he would often sit playing with his hands in her neck, sometimes crack nuts and feed her with them, sometimes he would bite her cheek, roll her on the couch, frequently sleep on her lap, or on her shoulder, and she would cover him with her apron for hours together, and in short behaved in such a manner that any stranger would have supposed it had been a bawdy house.

In the parlour I could not bear to see these things, and I went into the kitchen, I found my wife in tears, saying, she could not bear this, she was either obliged to be an eye witness to such indecency between them, that was shocking to a modest woman, or else she must sit by herself in the kitchen like a widow. I spoke to Mrs. Parry of it, that I did not like my wife should be made uneasy. On this she took on herself to speak to my wife in this manner, Mrs. Nathan says she, I suppose you are jealous because M— A— does not play with you, you know you are a married woman he durst not meddle with you, pray answered She Mrs. Parry are not you a married woman too, Oh! dear! says she, our marriage is not so strict as yours, I am to him the same as a young girl. Mrs. Nathan from this time, avoided being in their company as much as possible, which caus'd this pious couple to contrive which way they might set she and I at variance, accordingly, they trumped up a story between them to tell me, much to her disadvantage, in the first place the goodly M— A— told me that my wife had boasted to Mrs. Parry, that she was picked up in the street, by a young man, who carried her to a dram shop, and treated her, he likewise, told me that she did when I was absent, get herself often disguised with liquor, and scold and use Mrs. Parry very ill, and that, if I did not put a stop to it, Mrs. Parry would be oblig'd to leave my house, and that she likewise threatned if I did not furnish her with clothes as good as Mrs. Parry had, that she would turn out and get them for herself, and that the sin would lie at my door, I said in answer to this that I was much surprized Mrs. Parry had not acquainted me with this herself, he said she was loth to tell me, because she feared it might make disturbance between man and wife (see reader how tender this lady's conscience is) but that he was so much my friend, that he thought himself obliged to let me know it, all this I too readily believed, the reader may perhaps blame me for my credulity in this particular, without my giving a reason for it, but here I hope he will be so indulgent as to excuse me, as I cannot do it, without unavoidable injury to the innocent, and this was the sole motive why I refused to assign a reason when I was before the Vestry, about this time some of my neighbours began to suspect too much familiarities between Mrs. Parry and our Philosopher, and made it their business to watch them, which they could easily do as one of their houses commanded a full view of my parlour window, (what gave them the first suspicion I know not, but very possible my wife might have dropt some hint,) however, be that as it may, they satisfied their curiosities and saw him with one arm round her neck, and the other hand in her bosom, while he was kissing her, this was whispered about from one neighbour to another, till all were acquainted with it and were frequently pointing with their fingers, and gave evident tokens of what their thoughts were concerning this happy couple and it furnished them with, sufficient ground to affront me to my face, for one day having some words with one Long Soloman, and

his wife, they bid me get into my bawdy house, and shut my parlour window, Mrs. Parry heard this, and cried out for God's sake Mr. Nathan come in, tis now high time to remove I'll stay no longer in this house, they now began to find fault with every thing my wife did, the victuals was not clean enough, and one day M— A— willing to be very busy, took upon him to examine Mrs. Parry's victuals on her plate, and happened to find a hair in it, he made so many observations on it that Mrs. Parry declared she would stay no longer, for my wife was become so nasty, she could not eat the victuals that she dress'd; I now took the lady up pretty roundly, and said, Madam, pray how could you eat Mrs. Loffter's victuals, I am sure some of that was not very delicate, for I have seen her son bring home part of a joint of ready dress'd meat wrapped up in dirty linen, which she had to wash, tied up together with coals, candles, and I don't know what, yet when this same meat was made into a hash, you eat part of it without finding any fault with it, and I think our victuals is at least as clean as that was; she answer'd, sir, if you saw it I did not, but I'll stay no longer, for I cannot agree with your wife, as to yourself, I could live with you all my days.

Accordingly she went to Mrs. Loffter's the same day; you may imagine how happy our Philosopher and his enamour were, to be out of a neighbourhood where they were ashamed to be seen, and how unhappy I was with my wife the same day. I went out the next day to try if I could bring her back again, well knowing if she did not come, the danger I was in of losing the money she owed me; and accidentally met with M— A— and his father. M— A— says to me, Mr. Nathan, I have something to propose to you, Mrs. Parry is gone from your house, and declares she will never come there any more; you know we are both money in advance to her, and if she goes among Christians, we shall lose it all; now I think the best way will be to persuade her to go and live at my father's. I seemed very agreeable to this, but says I, you know how my character has suffered by her being in my house. I think before he takes her home, it would be prudent as he has a place in the Synagogue, to go first to some of the elders, and ask their leave; to this they assented, and desired I would go with them, which I did; we waited on one Mr. J—, who is one of the elders, and he gave him leave in my presence.

Now thought I, is my time, if they give leave to one who has a place in the synagogue; to take her, they cannot blame me for doing it, who have only a place in the society. I went immediately to Mrs. Parry, who said Mr. Nathan, I have agreed to go to live with M. A's father, I hope you have no objection to it. I burst into tears, and said, Mrs. Parry, you know I have acted a father's part by you, to the almost ruin of my family; and you know that I swore if you went away on Mrs. Nathan's account, that I would never

live with her any more. I hope you fear God, so as not to be the means of parting man and wife, which you know is a grievous sin; but that you will come back to my house again. I will give the lady her due, she behaved in this instance much better than this base man did: She said she would put up with any thing, rather than part man and wife, and would come back again, if I would bring Mrs. Nathan to her, and insist on her asking her pardon; but that I must get another house, for she would not live any longer in that neighbourhood: But, says she, what shall we do with M— A—, he will be so angry, he will never come to see me any more, as I shall disappoint him very much in not coming to his father's as I promised. I said that would give me great pleasure, I should be glad he never would, and was very sorry he ever did come.

While we were talking, in comes M— A—, and Mrs. Parry informed him, that she was resolved to go to live with me again. This put the philosopher into a violent passion; madam, says he, then you may never expect to see my face again. I told him I was very much pleased with his resolution, for I was determined he never should come there any more, and that it would have been happy for my family if he never had, you know that you forced the half guinea per week on me, and made her tell the world, and even my own wife, that the proctor allowed it me. I did not want it, I don't live by man, I have the providence of God to trust to, who never has, nor have I any reason to think ever will fail me.

I went out and left them together, in order to fetch my wife to ask her pardon, and you may suppose had no easy task to bring her to compliance; which I however, at last accomplished, and begged the favour of Miss A—, the sister of M— A—, to accompany us, which she very readily did, being very glad that her brother's scheme of bringing her home to their house was frustrated.

Mrs. Nathan having complied with this ceremony, the lady came back to my house again; and our philosopher, notwithstanding his resolution to the contrary, and my plainly forbidding him, my house, came again to visit her; for he would put up with that, or a much grosser affront, sooner than quit the company of this his beloved lady. As Mrs. Parry had declared she would not stay in that neighbourhood, I took a lodging for her at Bathnal-green, till I could get another house; she was about this time a little indisposed, something like what is common to new married ladies, what cause it might proceed from I know not. I told Mrs. Lofster that Mrs. Parry was not very well, she went out and brought some kind of drops for her, which she would have sent to her by me, but I refused to carry them, as I had no very favourable opinion of her skill in physick; however, our Philosopher took them to her; (and here I would not be understood that she kept her bed) what virtue might

might be in this medicine, I ca'n't say, but she was soon pretty well again.

I asked the favour of Mrs. Parry to take my two children to Bethnal green with her, as they would be company for her, and at the same time would improve in their education, particularly as she could learn them Hebrew as well as English. This she consented to, which gave me a good deal of trouble and some expence, as I was obliged to go almost every day to carry them victuals; I soon found our Philosopher was not pleased with the childrens being there, for as soon as he would come, they were immediately sent down to play in the garden.

To cut this part of our story as short as possible, the neighbours there also soon found them out, perhaps my wife (who by the way is no keeper of a secret) might have said something of what had before happened; for they soon became spies upon their actions, often peeping in at the windows, and pointing in at her, crying out, "There she sits, that's she, &c." Mrs. Parry told me she could not live there, and that as Mrs. Nathan had been the cause of these insults, she would go from under my protection, be the consequence what it might.

I went home and told Mrs. Nathan, that seeing she had by her imprudence and jealousy, (for I say that I believed this was one motive, because she used to upbraid me with paying more respect to Mrs. Parry than to herself) rendered all my scheme abortive, after I had been at all this pains to bring matters to rights again; that I was determined never more to live with her; I gave her her choice before witnesses, both Jews and Christians, (which I called in on purpose) either to go away from me, and I would keep the children and allow her five shillings per week for herself, or if she had rather stay in the house and keep the children, I would leave her that, and all that was in it, and I would go away wherever fortune might direct me. She chuse to stay where she was and keep the children.

The President of the Society sent me word to summon twenty five gentlemen of the members to meet on the next Sunday, to judge whether I must lose my place or not; because, if my wife staid in the house and I went away, consequently I could not keep it, and should have nothing to assist her with; but if she would go and accept of the weekly allowance which I had offer'd her, I could still hold the place, which would be a great assistance to me towards the support of my family. I ask'd the the President to permit me to summon M— A—, who was a member, as he was well acquainted with the whole affair from first to last, and consequently capable of doing me great service as a witness; he was accordingly summoned.

I now went to my friend Mr. Mordecai, before mentioned, for whom I had a great esteem, and who was well acquainted with e-
very

very minute circumstance that has been related in these sheets, and told him, that as I was likely to lose my place, I would have him make what interest he could to procure it for himself, and I would endeavour to get him as many votes as I could, that he might succeed me, in case I should be turn'd out, which we did, and met with the desired success.

During this time M — A — came to my house with Mrs. Parry's keys, opened her drawers, and took away bundle after bundle, 'till he had carried away all her things. On Friday the 24th June, M — A — came to me, and brought me Mrs. Perry's note of hand for a years board and lodging, at a guinea per week, which should have been for 54l. 12s. but thro' some mistake, it was given only for 52l. 12s. This note bears date the 6th June, 1775, and was made payable in one month after. The next day he went with me to the Proctor to acquaint him of my going away, but Mrs. Parry's desire was that we should not tell him the truth, but only say I was obliged to go away for debt, 'till my affairs could be settled, to avoid a prison; for she well knew what would have been the consequence of letting him into the secret.

In his presence I left the note with the proctor, and gave him authority, when my attorney should have recovered from Mr. Parry, what I had already ordered him to sue for, to discharge his bill, and receive the overplus, and then to give him fresh orders to put this note in suit also; and when that was likewise recovered, to pay M — A —, who would know how to convey it to me, after paying himself what I should be indebted to him.

This I did, because, tho' I had no bad opinion of M — A —, respecting money matters, yet I durst not trust him with my law business, least his love should get the better of his conscience. M — A — went away and left me with the Proctor, who asked me where I intended to go, I told him to France; he said he was very sorry for my misfortunes, and seemed much to commiserate my distress; he asked how I proposed to live, I told him if I had a friend to advance me a trifle, so as to enable me to carry over a few goods, I would travel with a box, and should, I hoped, be by that means enabled to get my living. This generous hearted gentleman then put a few guineas into my snuff-box, as it being our Sabbath, I could not take it in my hand, and then I took my leave of him, with a heart full of gratitude for this piece of friendship.

I then went to see Mrs. Parry, and in my way met M — A —, who told me that Mrs. Parry had desired him to acquaint me, that she was determined never to come back to me any more while I lived with this Mrs. Nathan; but with another Mrs. Nathan, she would come back to me again, if it were twenty years hence. I told Mrs. Parry what he said, which she did not deny at that time, though she afterwards denied she ever said any such thing, but
said

said it was all in vain, for she would not come back. This I believe to be a scheme of our Philosopher's, to widen the breach between my wife and me, least if matters should be again accommodated between us, Mrs. Parry should be prevailed on to come back, and so disappoint him as we did before.

On Sunday the society met, and my wife and children were called up; they examined her, Whether she had any thing to alledge against me respecting Mrs. Parry; she said, God forbid I should accuse him with any thing criminal with her, but since she has been in the house, I have not been so well treated as I was before; he always took care to cut her all the nicest bits at table, and she is so much of the lady, that I am obliged to make her fire, and not only that, if it only wants to be stired, she will always call me to do it, and every thing else that she wants to be done; and, in short, I am little better than Mrs. Parry's servant; and when my husband comes home, she generally has some tale or other to tell him, which he for the most part believes, and by this means my life is rendered unhappy.

They then call'd upon me for to declare my reasons for being seperated from my Wife, I told them we had some private Family affairs, which I could not disclose to them, as was before hinted, but if they would send me to the Priest I would tell it to him, this they refused, and said, what I had to say, I must say it to them; now it is to be observed that M——. A——. had previous to this forbid me telling the Society what he had inform'd me of respecting my Wife, saying if I did, he would deny that he knew any thing of the matter, because they would have a bad opinion of him, for making mischief between us: So my mouth being as it were stopped, I stood like a Fool, and could only say that as my Wife had been the cause of Mrs. Parry's going away, I never would live with her more, unless she could bring her back again, this made them think that I must have more regard for this Lady, than was consistent with Chastity, and one Gentleman who is remarkable for the respect he pays to the Fair Sex, and has been a great sufferer by their Favours lately, cryed out Sir it is very hard that you will part with your Wife and Children for the sake of your Moll, Sir answered I do you know what you say, are you not laying yourself open to the law, for calling the wife of Esquire Parry a Moll, at this he laughed aloud, saying he was in no fear of that for the neighbours had given him sufficient accounts of what passed respecting her, I was then very saucy and told him she could not be a Moll because he was never with her.

They however all agreed to deprive me of my place, and ordered me to deliver them up the Book, which I refused, unless they would pay me five Pounds, sixteen Shillings which was due to me this they would not agree to, saying they would keep it to pay th^e
Landlord

Landlord, as I owed him a Quarters rent, which was three Pounds, and they would give the rest to my Wife, if I should not be indebted to the Book, which I very well knew I was not, at dinner time the Society broke up and went home, except M—— A——, who was so elevated with Joy that he ran immediately to his Dulcinea to bring these glad tidings.

I went out to take my leave of Mrs. Parry, and met M—— A——. by the way who was returning home to his dinner, he told me he would come back directly in order to bid me farewell. I told Mrs. Parry what had happened but I might have spared myself the trouble she knew it already, she said she had but three Shillings, and asked if I would except of it, I told her no, I then acquainted her with the goodness of the generous hearted proctor, and that I hoped what he had furnished me with, would carry me over, but that if I was afterwards obliged to beg I could better submit to it than she, and therefore would not take her small trifle of Money, but she might expect a letter from me in eight Days time and begged that when the Lottery Tickets should be delivered out that she would purchase for me a share, altho ever so small, and inclose it in a letter to me, which she promised faithfully she would, We then made a mutual Vow to each other, she, that if she should gain her cause, which would gain her a handsome allowance during Mr. Parry's life time, and entitle her, to her part of his Estate at his Death, that after every thing was ended she would come to me immediately on the receipt of a Letter, though I should be in Jerusalem and maintain me as long as I lived; on the other hand I promised her, that if it should please God to prosper me, and that she should loose her cause, and be in distress, if she would come to me I would provide for her in the like manner.

Just now M—— A—— came in, and I immediately took my leave of the Lady, and went out with him, he knew nothing of the Money I had of the Proctor, as we went along he took five shillings out of his Pocket, and gave me to bear my expences on the Road, and I believe thought it the best Money he ever laid out in his life, to think he should get me Transported so cheap, and that now he should have no one to controul him in his Amours; I had a few days before a Guinea of him to purchase some Goods and as I had not disposed of them, I carried them and left them with him that he might sell them, and pay himself; I thought him very niggardly to give me so small a pittance, when I behaved so honestly to him, especially as he well knew himself to be the sole Author of all my Misfortunes, however I parted with him as Jacob did with Esau.

I went to an Inn in Wood-street, and took my place as an outside Passenger by the Coach to Brighthelmstone for the next day, In the Evening when I went home my Children were already a Bed, and the reader may better guess at the Scene between me and my Wife, than I can describe it.

I left the Society Book with my Wife and told her that was all I had to leave her, except the things in the House, these I never touch'd, I pack'd up my Cloaths in the Morning at three o'Clock, I rose to go away, my Wife cryed and shewed so much distress of mind that it had so great an effect on me that I could not go up Stairs to take leave of my Poor Babes for fear of fainting away, my Wife asking me how I could be so cruel as to go and leave her and her poor Children to want, I replied your tears has shaken my resolution, however I must leave you, but not for ever as I was first determined I then went to the Coach and set out for Brighthelmstone; I had for several Years been a Tenant to Capt. Tweedle, who in his travels I have reason to suppose has picked up some of the Tender Sentiments of the Inhabitants of the Coast of Barbary, some of our good Neighbours who had encouraged my wife to act contrary to my will in the passages before mentioned, and had promised to be Friends to her in case I did leave her, went immediately to this humane Landlord of ours and told him that I was gone away and left my Wife and Family, he immediately came and seized on my Goods for his rent, although the Quarter was only turned one day, and he had always his rent duly paid every Quarter.

The Society however passed their word for the Money, he gave the Society possession of the House, and soon after turned my distressed Family out of Doors, herein he went farther than the Law gave him Authority, but so great have my troubles been, that I have not had it in my power to bring him to the decision of that Law which he has violated, howbeit I have not forgot him, but hope I shall be able to call him to account for it sometime or other; but to return to my Voyage I arrived at Brighthelmstone the same Night, and abode there till the 28th. June, and embarked on board the Packet boat, Capt. Cecil, for Diep, where we arrived the next Day, I lay one Night in Diep, and the next Day travelled to a Town, about eight leagues from thence, called Caunce I think, where I lay two Nights on Account of our Sabbath, On Sunday morning I was so stiff with walking and carrying my bundle, which weighed forty six pound, that I found myself unable to pursue my Journey on Foot, I therefore made signs for I could not speak the Language, that I wanted Horse to carry me to Montavelle, they accordingly furnished me with one for which I paid near five Shillings and set out, I had not gone more than three Leagues before I came to a small Town where was an Inn, that it seems that the Horse had been used to, he runs directly into the Yard with me and I was immediately taken off and ushered into a handsome Room, and the waiter came to me to know what I would pleased to have to eat or drink, I could not understand them, nor they me, and perhaps was as ridiculously distressed as can be possibly imagined, but at last I made them understand that all I wanted was to pursue my Journey to Montavelle, they then brought me another Horse and demanded

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Money

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I went to an Inn in Wood-street, and took my place as an outside Passenger by the Coach to Brightelmstone for the next day, In the Evening when I went home my Children were already a Bed, and the reader may better guess at the Scene between me and my Wife, than I can describe it.

I left the Society Book with my Wife and told her that was all I had to leave her, except the things in the House, these I never touch'd, I pack'd up my Cloaths in the Morning at three o'Clock, I rose to go away, my Wife cryed and shewed so much distress of mind that it had so great an effect on me that I could not go up Stairs to take leave of my Poor Babes for fear of fainting away, my Wife asking me how I could be so cruel as to go and leave her and her poor Children to want, I replied your tears has shaken my resolution, however I must leave you, but not for ever as I was first determined I then went to the Coach and set out for Brighthelmstone; I had for several Years been a Tenant to Capt. Tweedle, who in his travels I have reason to suppose has picked up some of the Tender Sentiments of the Inhabitants of the Coast of Barbary, some of our good Neighbours who had encouraged my wife to act contrary to my will in the passages before mentioned, and had promised to be Friends to her in case I did leave her, went immediately to this humane Landlord of ours and told him that I was gone away and left my Wife and Family, he immediately came and seized on my Goods for his rent, although the Quarter was only turned one day, and he had always his rent duly paid every Quarter.

The Society however passed their word for the Money, he gave the Society possession of the House, and soon after turned my distressed Family out of Doors, herein he went farther than the Law gave him Authority, but so great have my troubles been, that I have not had it in my power to bring him to the decision of that Law which he has violated, howbeit I have not forgot him, but hope I shall be able to call him to account for it sometime or other; but to return to my Voyage I arrived at Brighthelmstone the same Night, and abode there till the 28th. June, and embarked on board the Packet boat, Capt. Cecil, for Diep, where we arrived the next Day, I lay one Night in Diep, and the next Day travelled to a Town, about eight leagues from thence, called Caunce I think, where I lay two Nights on Account of our Sabbath, On Sunday morning I was so stiff with walking and carrying my bundle, which weighed forty six pound, that I found myself unable to pursue my Journey on Foot, I therefore made signs for I could not speak the Language, that I wanted Horse to carry me to Montavelle, they accordingly furnished me with one for which I paid near five Shillings and set out, I had not gone more than three Leagues before I came to a small Town where was an Inn, that it seems that the Horse had been used to, he runs directly into the Yard with me and I was immediately taken off and ushered into a handsome Room, and the waiter came to me to know what I would pleased to have to eat or drink, I could not understand them, nor they me, and perhaps was as ridiculously distressed as can be possibly imagined, but at last I made them understand that all I wanted was to pursue my Journey to Montavelle, they then brought me another Horse and demanded

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Money

Money for the hire, I endeavoured by signs to tell them that I had already paid the full hire and wanted the same Horse, but all to no purpose, they at last bethought them of an English Lady that lived hard by and brought me to her, who told me that when they saw one ride into the Yard, they supposed I had come in by choice and wanted to bait there, that knowing the Horse, they sent him home again, and if I wanted to go forward on Horseback, I must pay for another Horse, these were very hard Terms to pay for my Horse hire twice, but hard as they were I was obliged to comply or pursue my Journey on Foot which I was unable to do, at last having paid what they demanded for my fresh Horse, I set forward with a heavy Heart, and a purse that I found would soon be very light at this rate, and got that Night to Montaville.

The next Morning I was so stiff, that I was not able to Walk or ride, however as I was under a necessity of doing one or the other and had not above two or three Leagues to go : I set out on foot for Harvede grace, when I came there I was stopped at the Gate, it seems here is a Jewish Gentlemen who has a sort of Licence from the Court, that no Jew, who is travelling on foot, is admitted into the town, without he shews a pass, or a recommendation to this Jew who lives there ; I could not shew either, consequently could gain no admission into this place. At last one of the family of this Jew came to me and demanded what I wanted, I told him I had come in order to take a passage in a ship to some of the ports near to Jerusalem ; at this he laughed, and said you might much easier have got a passage from London, than you can from hence ; and after talking with him some time, he told me I could not be admitted, and therefore must return back again.

I now began to reflect very seriously on my present situation ; I thought as I had very little money, and could not be admitted into the town, if I went forward, my money would soon be gone, and I could not travel without ; if I did I had no prospect but to perish by the way, and should this be the case it would probably be among Christians, and my wife would never know what was become of me, and might remain a widow as long as she lives without knowing it ; but if I went back to London, the worst I had to fear was a prison, on account of my debts, which I thought was far preferable to perishing on the road, and of two evils resolved to chuse the least, and return back the same way I came. Accordingly I embarked with the same captain again, and landed safe at the port of Shoreham on the 9th of July, and the next day came by the coach to the Spread-eagle in Gracechurch-street.

I now was at a loss to fix in my mind where I should go to, as I did not chuse to go home, at last I determined to go to M— A—'s father's, and as I was going in, I met our Philosopher, who was so thunderstruck at the sight of me, that he could not speak to me, but stood

stood just like what he is; I asked him where he was going, he said to see Mrs. Parry, I said I would accompany him, you go, said he, no, she is no longer in your protection, but mine, she dare not see you any more, neither shall you go to her.

I went in to the old gentleman, who desired me to give him an account of my journey, which I did; he said he was very sorry for me, and that had he not been well convinced within himself that I really did go, he should have been ready to credit what had been told him, namely that I never went at all; for some gentlemen told him, and even swore to it, that they saw me sitting with Mrs. Parry, with my arm round her neck, (I thought this very hard that I must have the name, and another the game) and were surprised he should take the part of such a villain. He said he hoped I would not take it ill, but as he held a place in the synagogue, I could not be at his house, the elders were so angry with me, that if he was known to harbour me, (notwithstanding he was in himself well convinced of my innocence) it might be the means of losing his bread, and begged I would come very little there on that account; but that I might be assured of his personal friendship. I was therefore obliged to make a shift to lie on the ground in a friend's house, 'till I could procure a lodging.

The next day I went to pay my respects to Mrs. Parry, I knock'd some time, at last her landlady awaked, opened the window, and told me that Mrs. Parry was not at home, that she was at the other end of the town, and did not come home all the night. I went directly to Mrs. Loffter's in order to satisfy my curiosity, and asked for her there, Mrs. Loffter told me it was no such thing, for she had not seen her for some time. I knew where to find our Philosopher, and accordingly went to him, as I supposed him to be at the bottom of it. I told him that as they had shewn me so much ingratitude, I would even discover the whole affair, as I was ruined already, I had no more to lose, and now I would let the world know all.

He then told me he would go to her and bring me an answer tomorrow when I should see her, which he did, and I went to her; I asked how she could serve me so, as not to see me when I came to wait on her, she said she could not help it, as he had made her promise not to see my face again; I said, why then did you not tell me so, why did you not open the window and let me know your reason, and not let me go to the other end of the town to enquire for you: She said she could not open the window without seeing me, and that would be breaking her promise. You ungrateful woman, said I, is it you that talk to me at this rate, me that have acted the part of a father to you, have left my family for you, lost my bit of bread for your sake, and my all, for that fellow and his poor half guinea per week—Damn the money, madam, will you

sell your conscience for it? Says she, Mr. Nathan, if you were such a fool, I am not; you say damn the money, I say bless the money, we can't live without; and as I have now no body to depend upon but this man, I must not disoblige him, but do as he would have me. Mrs. Parry, said I, if you love money so well as to damn your soul for it, you had better have accepted of the lawyer's proposal, you might then have done better for yourself, he made you a much better offer by your own account, and then you would have had but one sin to answer for, because then you had not misled me and my poor family to ruin. She said we must not look at what is past, but take care of what we have at present.

We had some more discourse of this kind, at last in her winning way, she turned the conversation to another strain, and asked an account of my journey, which I gave her. She then offer'd me half a crown, I thanked her, and told her I trusted in God, that he would send me a shilling by my industry; but as she seemed to have nothing else to trust to but money, she had better keep it. She said Mr. Nathan, perhaps you are affronted because I don't offer you more, I have no more at present; I had a little more, but I bought me three pair of white stockings with it. I said, by that I suppose you did not expect a letter from me, because you know you promised to buy me a share of a lottery ticket and send to me. She made a poor sort of excuse, that she thought it would be time enough for that, so we dropt this subject. Then she said, if I should call on her at any time, but she desired it might be in a morning, because then M— A— would be sure not to be there, as she would not wish him to know that I called at all after this.

I was three or four days before I could get me a lodging, for the Jews would not harbour me, nay so much were they inveterate against me for leaving my wife, that were it not for the law, I believe some of them would have destroyed me, and thought they had done a meritorious action. I could not get one among the Christians neither, without telling more of my affairs to them than I thought would be prudent, and, indeed, I would not have chose to have lodged with the Christians if I could have helped it, because the Jews would have immediately said that I kept company with Mrs. Parry, they did so as it was, but this would have given them more reason to think so.

I at last got a lodging at one Mr. Brook's in Houndsditch, who sells poultry for the Jews; here I thought myself safe, as he is a Christian, and I was near the Jews, who might, if they pleased, see that I was always at home, unless in the middle of the day when I went out on my business.

I was very much distress'd for victuals, for the Christians food I durst not eat, and the Jews would neither give nor sell me any, not even a little boil'd water. I sometimes went to M— A—'s
father

father privately, when I knew the old gentleman was from home, when the children would take pity on me, and give me a little boil'd water for my breakfast. One day the old gentleman came in when he was not expected, and caught me at breakfast; Mr. Nathan, says he, I have one favour to beg of you, Mrs. Parry is coming to live at my house, and therefore desire you will keep away, otherwise the world will say you keep company with her. Sir, says I, the world will have more reason to say that your son keeps company with her; but I tell you this, that if she comes here, I will come whether you like it or not. I have no home to go to, this is the only house I am suffered to come to, and am determined not to be kept away on her account; but if my coming is disagreeable, I'll keep away, provided you don't take her to live here, which he agreed to, and both kept our promise. But Miss A—— was very kind, she knew in her conscience I was much injured, and in pity would come privately and sit half an hour with me when she could get an opportunity; for this mark of friendship, I desire to return her my sincere thanks, as it was really an act of charity.

Some days after this I went to see Mrs. Parry, who told me I had been her hindrance in going to live at M— A——'s father; but if I liked it, she had now an opportunity of going into partnership in a school, which might in time, be a bit of bread for her and me too. I asked her upon what footing, she said it was with a gentleman's daughter where she was going to lodge; that she was to find the room, and they to find the scholars; that the daughter was to teach them French, and she English; but she said the people would soon see who was the mistress of the school, and then she could take a room some where in the neighbourhood, and take the scholars with her, and then may be I can do something for you too.

I said, Madam, you are always contriving how to trick people, but take my word for it, that it falls upon your own head at last; they may easily turn you out of the room, but believe me it will not be in your power to take their scholars away from them; and in this my prediction proved true, for it fell out just as I said. But said I, pray what do you want with a school, have you not your weekly allowance from M— A—— to live upon: she said that was true, but it did not look well in the eye of the world, for her to be maintained by a young man; and that when she had this school to live upon, it would appear better, and be more to her credit, as she was at law with her husband, to have some visible means of procuring a subsistence. I told her she might do as she pleased in that respect, I would not hinder her: But I hoped she would permit me to come to see her sometimes, as she knew my distress, and give me a little boil'd water for my breakfast; but nothing

thing more at present in the room of my bread which she had eaten, yes, she said, by all means.

At this time she was making herself some shifts; when I took notice of it, she wanted to persuade me they were for Mrs. Loffter; I said that could not be, they were for a tall woman. Mrs. Loffter was not; she then said if I would not tell Miss A——, she would let me know how it was; she said M— A—— had bought her a piece of linen for shifts, which has laid at Mrs. Loffter's for these two month. I said, fie Mrs. Parry, where was your delicacy when you asked him to give you shifts: she said she did not ask him, he bought it of his own accord. Oh! did he, said I, I suppose he must have been meddling with your shifts and found them broke, or he would not have known that you wanted them. She turned this off with a laugh, and said he had likewise made her a present of a piece of fatten for a cloak, which she shewed me, and then I went away.

When I came home to my lodging I was alarmed with a false report, that one of my creditors had taken out a writ against me; I went immediately to M— A——, and told him of it, saying that a prison would not be much worse than my present situation; but that as I had not even a bed to rest on, I thought the least he could do, as he had been the author of my misfortunes, would be to furnish me with this very necessary article; he, I suppose, thought if five shillings was sufficient to transport me, he might send me to jail at a less expence. He, however, bid me go and buy an old FLOCK BED, which I might purchase for about three or four shillings, and he would pay for it.

This cut me to the heart, I had never been used to so much hardship, and to think it should come from this wretch who had brought me to distress through his treachery and that he should behave in this manner to me, grieved me more than all the rest. I now be-thought of another scheme which was to go and tell my wife that I was arrested, and was bail'd out till to morrow, and asked her to give me a bed. I accordingly went to her, when I had told her, she went and told the neighbours by way of a secret that I was come to take her bed away, on which the house was presently beset with Jews who attempted to come in, and threatened to kill me, and I believe they would have certainly done it, if they had got in. I fastened the door, they then attempted to break in at the window, but did not accomplish it, I was obliged, however, to stay there all night. after the mob was dispersed they left some persons to guard the house, and for ought I knew, to dispatch me if I attempted to bring the bed out, but I might have saved myself the trouble for my creditors had not (nor ever since) attempted to arrest me, and here I would beg leave to return them my most humble thanks for their great lenity towards me, and hope if I should have success in the selling of this book to be able to pay them every farthing, as God knows it is the utmost of my wishes to do so.

I went

I went the next morning to Mrs. Lofster, and while I was there in came Mrs. Parry, who informed me that she had left her lodgings at Bethnal-Green, I asked where she liv'd, now she said she durst not tell me, for that M—— A—— had forbid her and would not allow of my coming to her lodging; but that she would meet me at Mrs. Lofster's if I pleas'd once a week:—What service is it to me to see you here? said I; all I want of you, is, as I have no home to go to, that I might have some place where I might sit down for an hour sometimes; and as I told you before, to get a little water for my tea, it is very hard you should deny me this in return for all my friendship, as you know you have been the ruin of me; Mr. Nathan, says she, what can I do? I dare not disoblige him; I should be very glad to have you come, but as he has enjoin'd me not to tell you, I cannot: But take notice of my discourse, and if you can pick out by any thing that I should drop, where I live, why then you know I have not told you: She then began to tell me that she was last week in a street near Temple-Bar to enquire for a lodging at a corner house, that there was a two-pair-of-stairs room, four shillings per week, but M—— A—— chose she should have the one-pair-of-stairs for five: I said, I was surpriz'd she should like to move so far from her meeting; I should have thought she might have suited herself somewhere about Bishopsgate-street, and would have been as much out of the way of the Jews as she would be near Temple-Bar. At this she blush'd very much and said, If I could find her one thereabout, she should be very glad, and would move to it.

I now thought, I had guess'd pretty right, that she liv'd somewhere near this place, and the next day as I was going through Norton-Falgate, at one Mr. Jeff's a beadle, No. 7, I saw a Bill in the window, that there was a room to let: I knock'd at the door, and ask'd what room it was, they told me a two-pair-of-stairs, I ask'd the price, was answered four shillings per week, I went up to see it, I told them I wanted it for a lady and would acquaint her with it, and if she liked it, I would let them know: I ask'd if they had not a one-pair-of-stairs room? they said, yes, but it was just let to a lady. I now began to think I had the mark: They ask'd if the lady I wanted the room for were married or not; I told them, she was married, but at present she liv'd by herself, (being at law with her husband.) I then ask'd, if there was an Annabaptist meeting any where near, on this, (as she had told me her landlady was one) they said, I fancy you want the room for the lady who is in the house already; pray is not the lady's name Mrs. Parry? I answer'd, yes; Oh, Sir. she is here already! will not you walk in and see her? no said I thank you, not now, please to give my compliments to her, my name is Nathan! I acquainted Miss A—— with this adventure, who was so very angry, that she declared she would never more have any thing to do with such an ungrateful person as Mrs. Parry,

Parry, and she has in part kept her word. I now took a resolution to go to Wales and try if Mr. Parry would pay me what I was out of pocket by gentle means, and I would tell to him the whole transactions from first to last. I went to the proctor and told him of my intention of going, and ask'd him to give me a recommendation to his correspondent in that part which he did, and I thank him very sincerely for that and all other favours he has conferred on me, for he has in every respect behaved to me as a true friend: This recommendation I have now by me seal'd up, for I have not made use of it, and Mrs. Parry herself, who heard the copy of it read, said, it was as strong a one as could be given to any man: The next time I saw M—— A——, I told him, that it was very hard that I was not permitted to visit Mrs. Parry (his Dolly which expression he well understood) that I was going to Wales, and wanted to see her very much, as she might perhaps give me recommendations to her sister; he said, Sir, you shall not come there, I answered, but I will go in spite of you; he then ran and gave orders, that I should not be admitted, and then told me, that I might see her at Mrs. Lofster's, where she accordingly met me; when I came there, our philosopher and she were in a back room with two chairs placed before the door, that nobody might suspect any person being in that room; when they heard my voice, she came out first and he followed her, she seem'd very angry, and thus address'd me, "Mr. Nathan, what do you want with me? how dare you take the liberty of calling me Dolly? was I ever your whore? for this piece of impudence, you shall never see my face again, even here." I said, Madam, I don't want to see you, I want to be paid: Paid! said she, what payment?—you know we have your receipts for payment, when you receiv'd half a guinea per week from M—— A——, what other payment would you have? Pray, Madam, said I, how can you make that appear? I never gave any receipts for the money, only a note signify my having had so much money from him on account: But admitting it as you say; have I not your note of hand bearing date the 6th of June last (which I left with the proctor in M—— A——'s presence) wherein you acknowledge yourself indebted to me £.52 : 12s.—Oh! Sir, said she, I have acquainted the proctor, that I only gave that note to shew the Jews: How came the proctor not to see through you then, answered I, when you sent me the note, both he and yourself knew that I was to leave England immediately, and should have no further conversation with Jews or Christians either (for a long time, if I ever had any more) in this country. But admitting them to be receipts, pay me what you owe me exclusive of them, and I will be content: Pray, M—— A——, said she, where are the notes you have against Mr. Nathan, we will pay him; I said, Madam, he has but one note against me, which is only for five guineas: But pray, how dare you ask him to pay me with his notes, he is not your husband yet:

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However, let him pay me and discount the note, and even if I am any thing more in his debt, let him deduct it, seeing he is to keep you, let him pay me and I'll have no more to say to either of you: she said, that the method I had taken was the method never to be paid, if I ever expected to be paid, I must take care of her character, and that would be the only sure means of obtaining what was my due; but Sir, I understand you are going to Wales; what do you think to do there; have you a mind to be kill'd? You may depend on it I have provided against that blow, for I have wrote to my husband to let him know that you are an impostor, and to my sister, that you are a dangerous person; that she may give you no countenance, therefore, you had better lay aside this journey as you will do yourself no good by it: I answer'd look here Mrs. Parry, you know my distress is very great; I am as though I had no wife or children, nay, I am worse, for mine own eyes beheld my children begging in the street; they will lose the little education they have got, and in all probability if they get a bad habit of this way of life, it will be very hard to break them off from it, and the desolate manners they will learn, even should it ever be in my power to take care of them again; besides I have no home to go to, and you will not allow me to visit you so much as to give me a little water for my tea; I can get no victuals that I dare to eat, and now our new year is about beginning, the Jews won't let me come to the synagogue, and what must I do think you? would you have me perish in the street: If I go to Wales, perhaps I may be able to speak to Mr. Parry, and may, when he sees me, settle matters amicably, and be paid what he owes me, which would enable me to provide for my poor distress'd infants; beside, by taking this journey, I shall be out of the way of the Jews here, and perhaps come to some place where there is a synagogue in the country, where I may spend my holidays without being expos'd to the insults which I every day meet with from the Jews in London. Mr. Nathan said she, take my advice, and it will be better for you and me too: go you to the society, and tell them you are willing to take your children again if they will give you your place in the synagogue; that you will have two thirds of the furniture, and leave the other third for your wife, on condition that they will send to old Mr. A—— to take me into his house, and I will take your children with me and educate them; then you may come there as often as you please, because you don't come to see me, but to visit M—— A——'s family; and M—— A—— will assist you in your business if you should be straighten'd for money, and by this, you will be able to maintain your children: But I answer'd, suppose they should ask me for security, do you think I may mention M—— A—— to them, for they may think it only a trick of mine to get possession of the goods in order to sell them, no said she, by no means, if you mention his name, I will have nothing to do with you. I went to the society and made this proposal, they

were very agreeable, but insisted on having security for the goods; I told them I had none, they said, let M—— A—— pass his word for you, I said I would ask him, but I did not know whether he would or no: They sent to old Mr. A—— to desire him for the good of my children, to take Mrs. Parry to live there, which he refused, I went to him myself, he told me I had made a fool of him twice but he would take care I should not do it a third time, besides, said he; I don't like her: My son brought her home to supper the other night, and I saw so much familiarity between them, that it gave me great uneasiness, and therefore I will have nothing to do with her. I went to the synagogue to see if they would give me my place, when I came there, one of the elders behaved very rude to me, and gave me such language as neither became him, nor was fit to be used in that place, and were it not out of respect to the congregation that I conceal his name, I would mention it at length. He ask'd what I wanted there, I said, I came for my seat, and if I shou'd any thing I was ready to pay it; No, no, go to your Christian woman that you keep, and take your seat there, said he; and order'd the clerk, if I ever offered to come through the bar to turn me out, as I was going out and reasoning with him, that it was very hard to be so us'd, saying, that they should not condemn a man unheard and that I must be thus scandalized and not suffered to come to the synagogue; in came a Jew butcher, who lives just by, What! says he, is that fellow come here? I have a great mind to call to the populace, and have him duck'd: I would only have this person reflect seriously for a few moments on his own conduct, and on that of his own as well as his wife's family, and then let him lay his hand upon his heart, and tell me who deserves to be duck'd. — As we came to Shoemaker-Row, we met with a company of female Jewish fish-merchants, from Billingsgate, who, when they had pitch'd their baskets, began to clap their hands, and cry out, "God bless you sir, to the elder forsaking the part of that poor woman," and paid him more honour than ever they do when he comes to buy their fish; for it is well known that then they pay him very little, "We have a great desire to take that fellows breeches down, and whip him," and some of them took up stones to cast at me, and I found it was high time for me to retreat, which I did with great precipitation, and ran off to Bury-street; here I saw a Jew gentleman standing at his door, who began to reason with me, while we were talking, came out a gentleman his neighbour, who commonly wears a wig two feet high, I was very glad to see him, as I had always conceived that this enormous wig cover'd a vast deal of good sense; alas! alas! how may a man be deceiv'd by appearances. What! Sir, said he, are you talking with that villain, (I imagined the gentleman had mistaken me for his own son) but when he went on a little further thus, a villain that has left his wife, I knew he could not mean his son, because it is pretty generally known, that he did not leave his wife!

wife: I would willingly give half a guinea, said he, to some blackguards up Duke's Place, to thresh him till they broke his bones, and then let him lie and perish: I said, you might save that expence, having in your own family enough who would perhaps do it for nothing. I have ask'd my wife since whether this man ever gave her any thing to assist her in her distress; she declares he never did: He was a member of the society, when I was clerk to it; he never gave me a farthing in his life, by this we may see what a propensity there is in human nature to do every thing that has a tendency to evil: This gentleman never had the generosity to make me a present while I was clerk, nor the charity to give my poor distressed family a trifle to fill their hungry bellies, yet would gladly have given half guinea to have made me a cripple.

The reader will please to remember my heart was by this time almost ready to break, to meet with so many insults, as I had done in one day, not only from the lower class of the Jews, but by those who were styled gentlemen, and who I had hitherto look'd upon as such, as I was going home I met with a friend who observing the tears in my eyes, asked me the cause, I related to him all that had just before passed, and told him how much I was troubled that they would not let me go to the Synagogue. He said if I were in your place I would give myself no concern about that, you are in a land of liberty, why cannot you get ten people to meet in your own room, and so form a little congregation of your own, the Jews can do nothing to you, when you are dead they must bury you, I said, true, sir, they must; but you know they take care to make the godliest Jews presidents of the burying ground, & if I should disoblige the vestry, the presidents will take no trouble about me, but send some of the lowest of the people, to take me away like a dog and this would be a disgrace to my children for ever.

Again, I have belonged to the Synagogue ever since I came to England, I was married there, my children were all named there, and I have, and always shall have respect for, and indeed have received benefits from them, and how can I do any thing that may offend them. Besides, though I have been used so ill by those at present in office you know there are new ones every year, and most likely the next elders will be men of sense, who will not run away with hearsay, but act in a judicious manner.

As I said, so it fell out, the next who came in, and who are at present elders, have behaved very kind to my wife, in assisting her, and I return them my grateful thanks, and hope it may some time be in my power to pay the synagogue what they have advanced toward her and the children's support.

I have not been to them ask for my seat yet, because, when this book is published I can go with a better face, as they will see who are to blame, and who are not. For the truth of what is herein contained, I appeal to heaven: and I am sure they will give it a fair ex-

amination, and I desire to be acquitted or condemned by an impartial judgment. Further, I can prove the truth of what is here inserted, by the testimony of an honest man, with whom I entrusted my secrets, from my first acquaintance with this base woman to this present time; namely, Mordicai Mordicai.

But to return to Mrs. Parry, when I met her again at Mrs. Loffler's, I told her every thing that had happen'd since I saw her last, asking her what was to be done next? She said, I cant advise you Mr. Nathan, but if you can get your Children, and take a lodging near to me, so that they can come to me in the day time, I will give them education, and then we can see each other without coming so far, I went to my wife and said, look here, you have so many beds, some of them lie empty, I am obliged to pay three shillings per week for a lodging; now if I had a bed, I can get a room for eighteen pence; now if you will let me have a bed, I will pay you the rest of the money, which will help you, and beside I will take one of the children. To this she agreed, and I hired the lodgings where I now live, and took home my eldest daughter, who is nine years of age.

I happen'd in a house where the people were very good sort of folk, and behaved very well to me and my child; particularly a lady who lives in the first floor, who has and still continues to shew great humanity to me and to all my family in our distrels. I sent the child to Mrs. Parry every day, but was not permitted to visit her myself; nor did she ever come to me. The next time I saw Mrs. Parry at Mrs. Loffler's, I said, it was true I had got my child with me, and was in a house with very worthy people, where I could go and sit for an hour sometimes, when I had leisure, but still I am little better; it has indeed answer'd your purpose, but not mine, for now I can see that your drift was to get me incumber'd with my children, that I might not have an opportunity of going to Wales: But now I have a good mind to go to the Proctor, and discover all your proceedings to him, which will destroy all your schemes at once. for I plainly see you have no intention of serving me, but yourself.

We went immediately to the Proctor, and M—A— who happen'd to be there, went with us. When we came there, she began to weede me, (an art which she is a proficient in) saying, I had better support her character before the Proctor, than to discover any thing, and all should be well again, and I should see how much she had my interest at heart. When the Proctor came into the room, she began thus. You know, sir, I was telling you the private reasons Mr. Nathan had for leaving his wife, but he can tell you much better than I can; Mr. Nathan, you'll be so good as tell the Gentleman the real cause. I then was so weak as to tell the private family uneasiness which I refus'd to relate to the society, and alledg'd that as the sole motive for my leaving her. She then said, sir, you

have

have a note which Mr. Nathan left with you, I only gave him that to shew the Jews, to satisfy them, if you please to give it me. He said, madam, Mr. Nathan left it with me, I must give it to him, which he did. As we went home, she said, Mr. Nathan, if you was to come to see me you wou'd have no satisfaction, for you know that M— A— is there every Evenig; but if you want to speak with me at any time, send the child to call me, and I'll come down and speak to you; I want you to be reconcil'd again to your wife, and that you may live happy together again.

I went one saturday afternoon to call on this lady, having something to say to her, she came down and stood in the door way a little while, pray sir, said she, is your synagogue out, yes, madam, I can't think, says she, where M— A— is; however, the lady's eyes were quicker than mine, for all at once she fell to rubbing her hands, saying, it's very cold, Mr. Nathan, I can't stay, and away she went up stairs.: As I came off the steps, I saw M— A— coming, and was able now to account for this lady's abrupt departure. I told this to Mrs. Lofster, who it seems carried it to her again, for soon after I receiv'd a message from her, which she sent to my landlady, that she desir'd I would never have the impudence to call to see her any more, for if I did, she would never see me, seeing I had been making game of her behaviour, and told it to Mrs. Lofster.

Now to say something concerning my wife: Since she had given me a bed, and I got the child with me, she became more in my favour, when I could get a shilling, I used to carry her half of it, that the children might not go begging, and told her that when I could get a bit of bread, she might assure herself that she should have part of it; but she must not expect that I would ever live with her any more. When she saw that I began to be a little friendly to her, she, poor woman, entertained hopes of a reconciliation, and endeavoured to bring it about. She applied to M— A—, desiring, for God's sake, that he would, on the children's account, be so good as to speak to me about it; this he promised her he would, and bring her an answer; but he never opened his mouth to me on that head. When she went to him for an answer, he huffed her and told her he would not speak to me, nor did he want to speak to her; she answered, Sir, you have been the sole cause of parting us, it is very hard you won't be at a little trouble to bring us together again; but if you will not, I will go to the vestry, and tell the whole of your transactions in my house, and make you appear like what you are, he told her she might do her worst, and went away.

She then sent her compliments to Mrs. Parry by my eldest daughter, begging only to be permitted to come to speak to her, who returned for answer, if ever she came there, she would charge the beadle with her, and threatened the girl, if she told her mother where she lived, she should never come there again.

About

About this time I chanced to fall in company with Mr. J——s, a barber in the Strand, and his wife, who the reader may remember have been before-mentioned, in particularly that Mrs. Parry accused this gentlewoman with persuading her to accept of the four hundred per annum, offered by a young gentleman at their house. Some how or other Mrs. Parry's name happen'd to be mentioned; Mrs. J——s said, she heard that some Jew had been taken in by her, that she had passed herself upon him for a fine lady: I said, madam, I am acquainted with the house where she lived, and should suppose her a lady, for to my knowledge she cannot handle a poker; not a poker, said Mrs. J——s, I am sure she lived as a servant with my husband's brother, John James, the baker in Carmarthen, who kept three servants, and she was the undermost, and used to make the fire, and carry out the rolls too, for they don't keep servants to look at there I can assure you.

When I heard this, I told her that I was the person who had been so much imposed upon by her, and related the particulars, and likewise what she had said with respect to Mrs. J——s persuading her to accept of this four hundred per annum. Mrs. J—— answered we have nobody comes here who is worth 400l. a year; there was a young man used to come here, whom she used to play with, but if she means him, I am sure the the whole family is not worth 400l. I persuaded her to go to service, as she had been always brought up in that way, and to think no more of going to law with her husband, nor of going to live among the Jews, (as she was always preaching so much about virtue) who are remarkable for attacking the women's chastity; I said, madam, she has had a good education, if she was brought up a servant, pray how came she by it; very true, sir, said Mrs. J——s, she has so, and that she got from her sister, who keeps a school in Carmarthen, and with whom she lived some time, but her sister would have her to keep very close, and that did not suit with her active genius, therefore she would not stay with her. I met the same day with another woman from Carmarthen, who confirmed what Mr. J——s had said respecting Mrs. Parry's having been a servant to John James the baker; and further, that she herself knew her to live a servant to one Mrs. Stepney, and she was usually called MOLL!

When I came home I went to see my wife, whom I found in tears, she informed me what had passed between her and that wretch M——A——, and likewise how Mrs. Parry had served her, in threatening her with the beadle; and further said, that she had a petition ready, and if Mrs. Parry did not see her, she would go with it to the Proctor, and unravel the whole affair. I desired she would not do that; if she did, I should look on her as I had done before, and withhold the little assistance I now gave her; but if she would be easy, I would go to Mrs. Parry, and did not doubt, but after that she would admit her.

I went

I went, and had her called down that I must speak to her on business of moment; she came to me. I said, Mrs. Parry, I should not have called on you (as you had forbid me) on my own account, but my wife is very desirous of seeing you, and how could you send her such a message, when she lent to you in a genteel manner, to ask you to let her come to speak to you, and threaten her with a beadle; she answered I don't like to see her, she has injured me enough already: No, madam, said I, you have injured her, you mean, and therefore, I suppose, are ashamed to see her, but you need not, she is not coming to upbraid you with it; she demanded in what she had injured her? I answered, in many things, but I will not mention our misfortunes which you have brought upon us; you injured her when you made her light your fire three times a day, pretending that you were a fine lady, and did not know how to do it; but madam, there is a person in town, who has seen you light fires in Carmarthen!—Oh! Lord, Mr. Nathan, is Mr. Parry in town? Now, madam, said I, Mr. Parry, I hope you did not light fires for him, I thought you were his lady, and had servants to do that and every thing else for you; yes, she said, so she had, but sometimes the servants used to lie too long in the morning, and then she used to light a bit of fire for herself; very like, said I, but there is a person in town, who has seen you light fires for his brother John James, the baker in Carmarthen, to whom you was a servant, and used to carry out rolls for him. And madam, there is another person who has known you to live servant, and used to light fires for a Mrs. Stepney, when your name was MOLL. I advise you to see her, if you do not she will go to the Proctor, and spoil all your affairs; and she, you know, being not very silent will certainly do it, so you had better let her come, and hear what she has to say to you; she answered no, if she came there, she would charge the beadle with her. I said, I fancy that was your reason for taking a lodging with him; it is very necessary that such persons as you are, should keep in with the beadle, as they sometimes find their account in so doing. While we were talking, Mrs. Jeff's came out in a very rude manner, and said Mrs. Parry, pray come in, what do you stand in the street for? on which she wished me a good night and went in.

A few days after this I met Mrs. Parry at Mrs. Loffler's, and asked what made her landlady so angry, that she came out to call her in, that night in so rough a manner; she said, because the neighbours took notice of her standing in the street talking with men of a night. I said, I commended Mrs. Jeff's very much, as it shewed she had prudence enough to take care of her husband's bread, I wish'd my wife had been as cautious; but, said I, this was the first time you ever stood there with me, therefore the neighbours could not say any thing to her about it, by this you must have made a practice of standing there before of a night with other men, or this would not have

have happened; to this remark she made no answer, and so we parted.

I went from thence to the club, where the old cloaths people met to deal one with another, and there I found M— A—, dressed in his best cloaths, by this I judged he had been with the Proctor; I asked him if the Proctor had been able to do any business for Mrs. Parry this term? he answered, I do not know. I asked him, if the twenty pounds alimony was paid yet? he said, I don't know. Pray did the Proctor ask for me? he said, no.

A fortnight after I waited on the Proctor, who said, he had wanted to see me very much, and had desired Mrs. Parry and M— A— to tell me, but they said they should not see me. This shew'd me again what a couple of worthless wretches they were; he saw me every day in the club, and my child went every day to her school. He told me my wife had been with him, with two children; that their case seemed so pitious that he was very sorry for them, and would advise me to take her again, and he would do any thing in his power for me; which request I refused, but am very sorry I did refuse him, who had been so much my friend; however, I considered seriously of it, and seeing how cruelly these base hypocrites had used me, and continued to do, I was determined to comply, that I might at once make my family all the recompence in my power, and at the same time be even with this pair of devils in disguise.

I went to this worthy gentleman the next day, and told him, I was now resolved to comply with his advice, and take my wife and children home. He desired me to call again, and he would see what he could do for me, to put me in a way of beginning the world again. Accordingly I did call, and he generously gave me a few guineas. It grieved me very much to think that I had been so deceitful to my benefactor, as not to tell him the whole secret.

When I came home I desired my wife to shew me the copy of her petition, and found by that, she had discovered a great deal, and referred him to me to confirm it, that if he would ask me, my conscience would not suffer me to deny the truth of what she had asserted; but as he had not asked me, I thought my conscience pretty clear, particularly as I found he had a very favourable opinion of her, and doubted whether he would give me any credit if I did tell him. I asked the Proctor, if I might go to the lawyer, who was employed by the opposite party, to see if I could get some of my money back by gentle means, for I saw I was not likely to recover it by law: He said by all means, if I liked.

I accordingly waited on Mr. Parry's lawyer, who asked me why I did not come sooner; to this I gave him a reasonable answer; he said he did not chuse to trust me, but if I know of an honest Jew, that I could bring to him, he would tell him what terms he would come to with me. Sir, said I, there are many honest Jews who have

have not the name, but I know a very honest gentleman, esteem'd both by Jews and Christians, which is Mr. Myers of John-street; he said he had heard an exceeding good character of this gentleman, therefore he would not give him the trouble of calling there, but would wait on him, which he did the next morning.

I went to Mr. Myers, myself, and told him how matters stood, he said, look here, Mr. Nathan, I cannot do any thing till you promise me two things: First that you will live again with your wife, and take care of your family; in the next place, that you will declare the truth, and the truth only, be the consequence what it may. On these two conditions, and these only I will endeavour, all in my power, to serve you, for your poor family's sake. I told him, I had already promised this to the Proctor the day before, and how generously that gentleman had behaved to me; he said, if he did not know me for an honest man, he should scarce believe it, However, I promised him strictly to observe his injunctions, and so we parted.

This gentleman met with the lawyer several times, we had conferences together about this business. One day they called me into a coffee house near to St. Paul's, and the lawyer said, see here Mr. Nathan, I am by no means going to acknowledge that Mr. Parry owes you any thing, go to law with him if you please, and do your worst; but as you have been very much imposed on by this woman, for you are to understand, that Mr. Parry is not worth any thing, like what you have been made to believe, but out of charity I will give you a certain sum of money, which he mentioned, if you are content; but it is on this condition, that you live with your wife again, and stop all proceedings of the law, and and take care of all papers which you have against Mrs. Parry. I said, Sir, as I have given this gentleman, Mr. Myers, this trouble, whatever he thinks is right, I am ready to agree to; but as I have twenty pounds to pay which have been expended in law, I hope you will be so good as to allow me that also; which he agreed to.

The lawyer said Mr. Parry knew nothing of this, but I shall acquaint him with it, and if he does consent to it, you shall have your money left with Mr. Meyers in a months time, where I expect you will likewise leave all such papers as you have against Mr. Parry, I accordingly gave what papers I had to Mr. Meyers, and proceeded no farther with the law; Mrs. Parry now began to suspect how matters were like to go, I met her one day by Charing Cross, and we walked home together, she began to persuade me not to betray her secrets; I asked her how she could suppose I would do otherwise; after the manner she had treated me with, and the manner she lived at present with M— A—, she answered what is that to you how I live with him, do you think I learn Hebrew for nothing if Mr. Parry should die I will turn a Jew, and Marry him, I said I had guessed as much for sometime, but pray if that be your Intention, why do you carry him to Meeting. why don't you go to the Synagogue with him; Oh! says she, that is one of my tricks

suppose Madam you should have a child before Mr. Parry dies ! at his she laughed and said, she was not so lucky, for that she had miscarried five times by Mr. Parry, that was all she wanted, if she had but a child no matter who got it, for Mr. Parry must father it, and by that means she would come in for the Estate.

As to what you can do to me, I don't value, for I have made every one believe who are acquainted with us both, that your brains are turned, even the Proctor thinks your Mad, and your threatening to acquaint Mr. M'Govan, for I had threatned this, I care not, for they will not believe even a Christian, except an Annabaptist, much less a Jew, that shall say any thing to my prejudice, But says the Mr. Nathan, you may do your worst you can to me, notwithstanding as you have acted a Fathers part by me, I shall always respect you, and will do every thing to serve you, even if you wanted, I would part my last penny with you.

Soon after this my child come home from School one night, having her arm torn as if done by a persons nails, she shewed it to the Gentlewoman of the House, and the Lady in the first floor, and when I came home they advised me to go to Mrs. Parry, as the child said it was done by Mrs. Jeffs, and that she had kicked her several times, I went and called Mrs. Parry down, and said, Madam, I thought there were but two Mistresses in your school, but I find there are three, you teach English, Miss Jeffs French, and the mother acts the part of Mother Brownrigg, pray how came my child so much abus'd, Mrs. Jeffs was called out who denied that she had scratched her, and said the child had done it herself, with a pin on purpose, but that she did kick her because she had taken precedence of another child in going up stairs, I asked what harm there was in that, but allowing their had, she had no right to meddle or kick her, the child not being put under her care, Mr. Jeffs being perfectly acquainted with his Beadles Office, came and pushed me out of the door, and shut it after me, the next morning the child went to School again, and Mrs. Jeffs, came into the School room, and in Mrs. Parrys presence struck the child in the face with her hand so violently, that she bled a great deal, which was evident by her handkerchief, which she brought home covered with blood, and then bid her go and tell her pappas that too.

Next Miss Jeffs put her on a Fools Cap and set her up at the window hoisting up the Sash, and her good mother went to call the neighbours to laugh at this poor innocent, whom these worthy women had commanded to stand there till she'd fall on her knees and ask their Pardon, this the Child absolutely refused, saying it was contrary to our law, and besides she had done nothing to offend them but had been much abused, they however made her stand in this posture untill twelve o'clock ; I went to Mrs. Parry, again and asked how she could set in the room and see my Child used in this manner, she answered Lord, Mr Nathan, what can I do, I am sure I was dead to faint away when it happened, and cried out, there, Madam,

Madam, now I suppose you have got what you wanted, but if this child's father should seek redress from the law, and I am brought upon my oath, I must declare the truth, I did not see you strike her to be sure, but heard the blow and saw the blood, which will go very much against you; I told Mrs. Parry, that I believed it her tricks to make me take the child away which I was determined not to do, till she sent her home, but she strongly insisted on it, that she had no desire, I should take her way.

On the 25th. of December, I took my wife home, this I supposed would have given Mrs. Parry singular satisfaction, as it may be remembered she had before this said that she much desired our reconciliation, but It had a quite contrary effect for she no sooner heard that we lived together again than she sent the child home, and desired she would come there no more, so diametrically opposite in the general is this pious Ladys tongue to her heart; I asked Mrs. Parry the reason of her sending my child home, she said my prophetic speech was now verified, for they had turned her out of the school and she was now oblig'd to live in a back room, I answer'd Mrs. Jeffs had acted very prudent in so doing she might probably preserve her husband's bread and I wished I had taken the same precaution; however Madam said I, I did not send my child to you as a school mistress, but as a friend to keep you company, and for you to instruct her, at your conveniency, therefore this is no objection at all, if you had gratitude enough left to do by her as you promised; she said Mrs. Jeffs had taken an antipathy against the child, and disliked her coming, and she did not choose to disoblige them, therefore could not have her come any more; sometime after this I waited on Mr. Parry's lawyer, when the month was expired to enquire about my money, who informed me that he was very sorry it was not in his power to keep his promise with me, for he had received a letter from Mr. Parry that his affairs were in so bad a situation that he must absolutely go to Jail.

I was much shocked at this news, and said sooner than Mr. Parry should go to Jail on my account. I would give him a free discharge, for that I was sensible that bad Women, had often brought their husbands to ruin; and that if he was any ways afraid of her doing him any injury, I had matter sufficient against her, and would most certainly prevent any bad consequences from that quarter, and trust to his generosity to pay me, when he is able; the gentleman thanked me on Mr. Parry's behalf, but said he that he was so much indebted to others that he must go to Jail, But said he I find you are a much better man than what Mrs. Parry had set you forth in her letter to her Husband, for she told him that she had little or nothing of you, but that you had persuaded her to go to law with him, and said that if he would allow her something to live upon, she would appear against the Jews, and they should never recover a farthing from him.

I now thought within myself that as M—— A—— had become acquainted with this woman by coming to my house, and that as we are forbid in the word of God to let a stumbling block lie in the way of the Blind, I could not let him go on without letting him know of this piece of treachery, as he was intirely ignorant of it, but if after I had informed him of it, he still persisted in it, and ruined himself, as I had done, my conscience would be clear; I went to him at his fathers House, and we went down in the kitchen by ourselves; I thus addressed him, SIR, I have known you from an infant, you was always a good Jew. but by coming to my house you became acquainted with that wicked woman, and see what she has brought you to, before this you would hardly speak to a woman, but you know what liberties you have taken with her before the face of me and my wife, such as would not become any Man to take with his lawful wife, in public; you're not a baby, you know that when those liberties are taken between Man and Woman before others, we may easily guess what is done when they are in private.

You used never to miss every evening to pray in Congregation before you became enamour'd with this lady, but after when the congregation were praying above stairs, you and she were playing below.

You used to have the Priest praying every evening with you, to instruct you in the word of God, but now your evenings are spent in reading nonsense to the ruin of your own soul and filling your head with fantastic notions, think a little Sir, you are but a poor old cloaths man, you know that now trade is very dead, and suppose you are worth an hundred pounds, which I very much doubt, you will soon spend, that in the manner you go on in making her presents of cloaths of different kinds, shifts, and I know not what, are you not ashamed to spend so much upon that woman, when you know you have a poor distressed sister with four Children, who are almost starving, and when you was applied to, for a trifle to help her, you made an excuse that you had lost between fifty and sixty pounds in the lottery, and it was with much ado that you contributed two guineas towards her relief; you say business is very dead, this I am very sensible of, and many others, and we can observe that when you buy a few pounds worth of Goods you take a certain person in the club-room, and give him half profit to advance the cash for you; you know that when Mrs. Loffter used to come, you always sent her home in a coach, or gave her two shillings to pay for one, a poor wretched woman, who never was used to a coach: Why Sir, this may for what I know be very dangerous, beside to my knowledge she will carry a basket of clothes from Charing Cross to Grosvenor Square, to save three pence, therefore this expence was quite needless; and this two shillings might have been with much more propriety given towards the support of your sisters distressed infants; but

but we may suppose that you honour the old for the sake of the young, another thing Sir, when I spent my substance on Mrs. Parry, I did it with a view of being repaid, and in hopes that my family might be the better for it, and have to my sorrow found myself much mistaken? and you may depend upon it there is nothing to be recovered from her husband, for he is now likely to go to prison; if you will not believe me ask Mr. Meyers, who knows this to be true.

Since you have been acquainted with her you have laid aside all thoughts of marriage, now you are in your Prime, and the world thinks you are worth some money, by and by she'll make you appear poor as she has done me, then nobody will have you, so in the end you will spoil your Fortune; I hope you will excuse me for thus admonishing you, I do it for the sake of your soul, see how far you are already gone in the Path of destruction; you know you have been the cause of the unhappy separation between me and my wife, this is a sin of so deep a dye, that I much fear if God will forgive you; you have my prayers that he may, and I freely do, though you have plunged me and mine into ruin.

Again you know we by our law cannot eat victuals dressed in any utensils which are used by christians, but you could eat green peas which were boiled in a sauce pan of Mrs. Parrys, and thought it no crime, which your sister saw, and came to me, saying, Oh Lord! what has that wicked woman brought my poor Godly brother too; do you think sitting in the Synagogue in a Sanctified posture, and turning your eyes up towards Heaven will ever bring you there; you know you are a hypocrite, and as to her, I fear she will lead you into the same error that Eve did our First Father, nay, will did I say! she has done it already? For your dear mothers sake who is now in the grave, I will one day publish the whole affair in hope of being by this means the Salvation of your Soul; however if not I shall be be clear of the Sin, your blood will be on your own head.

M—A—- stood all this time, (stood) just like what he is, without answering a word till I had done; and then said, if you think it will do you any good, you may publish it, and I shall be the same friend to you that I was before: But before this he used sometimes to lend me a few shillings to assist me in the way of business, but from this time he would not; and in the bitter cold weather this last winter, my feet were quite on the ground for want of shoes; I ask'd him one day to give me a pair of old shoes, but he answer'd in a very surly tone, he had got none.

Sometime after this, I call'd on Mrs. Rice, who has been mentioned more than once in the preceding part of this book; she was very glad to see me, and ask'd very kindly how I found myself with respect to my mind now? I ask'd what she meant? She told me that she had been inform'd by Mrs. Parry that I was gone out of my senses, and had left my family. I then told her the whole story. Oh! the wicked woman! exclaim'd she; she has been the ruin of my poor

poor child too; 'tis true, my daughter had the misfortune to have a child, but after that she would have been very good, and got her bread by her hands in an honest way; but this wretch persuaded her otherwise, and would be always taking her to Vauxhall, Finches Grotto, or some such place, where she acted as a broker, and would never let her rest till she got her into keeping with a Mr. A——n, who has been already mentioned: and had I not taken my son away from her, she would have ruin'd him likewise; for she would go and sit in the parlour, pretending to read the bible, and must have him to sit to keep her company; and once my daughter and one Nanny V—— saw her kissing him; and she used to make him believe that when Mr. Parry should die, she would marry him and make him a gentleman, as she should then have an estate.

One morning Mrs. Parry came to my lodging, where I am now, and desired my landlady to call Mrs. Nathan down; she accordingly call'd out, Mrs. Nathan, Mrs. Parry wants you. I answer'd, pray can't I do as well? She answered, no, Mrs. Nathan must come. I said, Mrs. Nathan is not up; she then said I might come. When I came, she turn'd a side face toward me, holding out her hand and saying, here Mr. Nathan are five shillings for you; I hear you are much disereis'd: I thank'd her, and she went off, without looking me in the face. A few weeks after she sent me five shillings by M—A——.

Some time after, I met Mrs. Parry by Charing Cross, going home, I walked with her; she said, Mr. Nathan, I understand you are endeavouring to ruin me; it seems you have been with Mr. Parry's Attorney, and setting M—A—— against me too. I said, Madam you oblige me to it, by your behaviour; you brought me a few shillings as if I had been a beggar, you turn'd your face away and would not look at me; I never served you so. She said M—A—— had made her promise him that she would never see my face, or speak to me; only as she met me by accident, she could not help it. I ask'd her how she could write Mr. Parry such a letter, that she had nothing from me, but would appear against me, that I might not recover what (she very well knew) was my due? She said she was afraid I would go to Wales, and that was her reason; but that Mr. Parry could make no use of it, as there was no name signed to it, for she always took particular care of that: But, said she, you may do me all the injury you can, I will do you double good for it, because you was like a Father to me. I only wish the Proctor would get twenty pounds alimony, I would then let you see that I am sincere. I would only take two pounds, and the other eighteen pounds you should have. I said, Mrs. Parry, are you upon honour now or not? She swore she was. Then, said I, Madam I'll tell you a secret; the money has been paid to your husband's Proctor, since the Fourteenth of June, and if you go to your Proctor, you'll very likely get it it. She said, she would not go, but would send

send M — A — the next day, and I might call on her the day after, and she would let me know what answer he had. I did so, and she told me that M — A — said he did not want to go, and he did not care if he never got a farthing; he would so long as he lived support her, on condition she should never see or speak to me more; and desired I would excuse her, for she was determined to comply with his request.

On the 29th of February, 1776, I went to the Proctor to acquaint him that the twenty pounds alimony was paid; as I found, if I did not stir in it, no body else would; for M — A — seemed to be very contented with his bargain, and Mrs. Parry seem'd to be very happy in having one to support her, and was quite indifferent how the law matters went on, or whether I ever got any thing or not: But my case was widely different, I was already reduced to beggary, and it was high time to bestir myself in the matter. The Proctor said that Mrs. Parry had complained to him that I had taken her character away, and spoke to her prejudice in several places. I answer'd there was not a person living who could charge me with depriving them of any thing they possessed.

On Monday, the 4th of March I called on him; again by his own desire, concerning the twenty pounds; he again charged me, before his clerk, with taking away Mrs. Parry's character; I made him the same answer as before, and was a little vex'd to think she had been before-hand with me, as she used to say she loved to be before-hand with people. I gave him to understand a little what kind of person this lady was, but did not give her such a character as she deserved. The same evening was the ceremony reading the history of the hanging of Haman, among the Jews; Mrs. Parry called at my lodging, and gave my landlady four shillings and sixpence for me; my landlady ask'd if she had not better to step up and leave it with Mrs. Nathan, as I possibly might take it as an affront if it was left with her; she said no, she could not stay, as she was going to Tabernacle. The Reader may suppose I was much chagrined to think this wretch should, under a cloak of religious charity, thus expose my poverty, which she herself, as an instrument in the hands of the Devil, had been the authoress of. The next morning I sent her a letter by my daughter, the purport of which was, to the best of my recollection, thus:

Madam,

I find you strictly adhere to the commands of your keeper, he having (as you told me) forbid your seeing or speaking to me: I therefore thought it might not be improper to return my hearty thanks to you in a letter, for the kindness you shew me in my present distress, in bringing me a few shillings. You would not bring it up to Mrs. Nathan; this I don't so much blame you for, as I know you are a strict observer of your word: But how came Mrs.

Morley

' Morley to know of the five shillings you sent me by the hand of
 ' M — A — ? I am sure when I used to give you things, I did
 ' not tell of it, even to my Wife. I hope you dont think to buy
 ' me off from speaking the truth with these few shillings, for I do
 ' assure you, all the money in the world shall never buy me to fore-
 ' go my purpose of declaring the truth. You have said, the more
 ' injury I do you, you will return me double good; now I hope you
 ' will keep this promise, for I am now resolv'd to declare the whole
 ' truth, which I believe will hurt your affairs more than any thing
 ' I can do; consequently, if you keep your word with me. I shall be
 ' far better off than by keeping your secrets. I was with the Proc-
 ' tor on Thursday and Monday last, and he desired me to call
 ' again. I find you have been beforehand, but truth never comes
 ' too late. Mrs. Morley told me you went last evening to the Ta-
 ' bernacle, and I went to read the history of wicked Haman: You
 ' know between them is about seven months before-hand.'

The reader may think this last sentence something enigmatical; be-
 that as it may, the lady to whom it was addressed perfectly under-
 stood my meaning. She bid my daughter to tell me to meet her di-
 rectly in Spital square, which I did. She said, Mr. Nathan, I un-
 derstand your letter very well, but what good will it do you? I must
 keep the promise I have made to M — A — ; but if you can lay
 aside your proud spirit, I have a proposal to make to you, that will
 procure you a bit bread as long as you live, and be of great service
 to me. I said I must lay aside my pride, if by that means I can get
 bread for my poor children, and am very ready to do it on that ac-
 count, but remember this, it must be in an honest way. She said,
 then I speak to M — A — , and ask him to let me come and live
 with you again. I looked very stedfast at her, and said, I cannot
 speak to a person when my heart and tongue do not agree: If I can
 forgive you, yet that villain I can't forgive, who for the sake of a
 woman has brought ruin on me and my poor innocent helpless babes.
 There are women enough which he might have had without ruin-
 ing me and my family. But if I would condescend to speak to him,
 he will stand like what he is, and give no answer, and if he should
 deign me an answer, it is delivered in so snuffling a manner, that
 there is no comprehending what he means. Again, madam, do you
 not think that God has punished me enough already for keeping se-
 cret all your proceedings, but I must take you into my house again
 to bear more of it? This I think would be to confirm what you have
 endeavour'd to propogate; namely, that my brains are turn'd in good
 earnest.

No, no, Mr. Nathan, said she, we have left off all those childish
 tricks, you may depend on it you shall see no more of them, nor
 have the least cause of complaint against us for the future. I said
 Mrs. Parry you are certainly not in earnest; you know you sent
 me word by M — A — that you would never live with that

Mrs.

Mrs. Nathan again, she was so nasty that you could not eat after her, how will you do now think you? She answered, what I said was very just, she to be sure had injured me greatly, but that it was all M — A — 's doings, and as she knew that I was greatly distress'd in my Circumstances, she was willing to do every thing in her power to assist me on account of my family, wishing at the same time she might never see face of God with joy, if what she said was not her real intention.

Pray, said I, what good is all this to do me, suppose you do come to live with me? She said she would persuade M — A — to advance me some money, and I should take a house and shop, that she had learned mantua-making, and millenary she understood before. I should go out all day long, and buy clothes, and she would make them up and mind the shop; and here, said she, is bread for us both. But when I should speak to M — A — not to take notice that she had spoke to me, but only propose it to him, and let him ask her, and to call her down the next day, and she would let me know what they had agreed upon. But I hope now you would not go to say any thing before M — A —, for that may injure me. I promised her I would not; I kept my word, as M — A — owned afterward before the Proctor, that I spoke in her behalf. I the next morning spoke to M — A —, as she had desired me. He said he did not know that she would agree to any such thing; but, if she liked to do it, he should be satisfied, and would speak to her about it, and endeavour to bring her to agree to it.

On the 7th of March, I saw Mrs. Parry, who told me he had been speaking to her about it, and said all he could in my favour; that she seemed to fly in a passion with him, and asked him, how he, as her friend, could go to persuade her to go again to live with a person who had said so many things to the prejudice of her character. But however, we have agreed that if you will go, said she, and contradict what you have said against me, at every place where you have said any thing to my discredit, particularly to the Proctor, then I will come and live with you again, otherwise not; so you see it is now in your own breast. whether your children shall have a bit of bread to eat or not. I began now to think this lady was at some of her old tricks again; but I wanted to know what our godly Philosopher would be at, and in order to find out this secret, I promised to comply with her desires. We agreed to go the next Saturday, to look for a house in Shoreditch, but as I had past through there the day before and did not see any, I thought it needless to give her the trouble, and therefore did not call.

This I suppose put her in some fear lest I might have changed my mind, for she call'd at my lodgings to ask for me, telling my landlady, that she would be glad to see me before she went to the proctor; saying, that as I had made free with her character, it was

new time for her to stir; I saw this lady in the morning, who ask'd me if I was making a fool of her; I told her, no, I was as good as my word, and gave her my reason for not calling on her, and told her, I would go the next day to look for one, and accordingly did, and Mr. Mordicai before-mentioned went with me, we saw one in North-street, near Spital fields market. On the Monday following, Mrs Parry went with me to see this house, but as the landlord was not in the way, we could come to no agreement, but were desired to call again: She said, now Mr. Nathan, you have nothing to do but to go to the proctor, and contradict what you have said, and let him know that M—— A—— will be with him to-morrow to know if he is satisfied. I accordingly went, and said, sir, I am sorry to be so troublesome to you, but as I know you wish to see me do well, it is now in your power to put me in the way of a bit of bread. M—— A—— having taken pity on my poor distressed family, and has agreed to take for me a house and shop, and will assist me with goods and money, and Mrs Parry will come again and live with me, if you approve of it; but on condition that I contradict those words which I spoke against her in your presence. Now Sir, I am very sorry that I have spoke concerning Mrs. Parry, words which I ought to have kept to myself, for which I am ready to ask her pardon before you. I made that wicked M—— A—— also appear much better than he is to the Proctor, who said he believed M—— A—— to be a just man; I said he was, but was also very obstinate, which was the case of many men who were possessed of money; the proctor said he was very glad of it, and would do his endeavour to serve me. M—— A—— this same week encouraged me in business, and was more ready to assist me with money than he ever was before, which was observed by the rest of the people at the club, who laughed at him, saying they supposed the lady had pleaded him. Two days after this I saw Mrs. Parry, who said that she and M—— A—— had been with the proctor, who told them, that the words I had told him, would not do, but I must take my affidavit, and that he desired to speak to me.

I said, madam, you have brought me pretty near to hell already, now you seem to be desirous of pushing me quite in and shutting the door of mercy for ever against me, how can you desire me to take my oath to such a thing, if the proctor knows no better, you know I dare do no such thing, neither will I, she answer'd, if you will go to the proctor, and satisfy him, I shall be very easy. I accordingly did go to him, when I came he told me that Mrs. Parry, and M—— A——, had been with him, and insisted on my making an affidavit. At this I flew into a violent passion, for which I ask his pardon, and said, Sir, not for all the king's riches; what, do you think I'll damn my soul; no Sir, if I take an oath it shall be to the truth.

He then asked me what I wanted Mrs. Parry to come to my house for, M—— A—— had told him that he was willing to pay me all that,

Mrs. Parry owed to me; only deducting what I was indebted to him, I told him that was all I desired, he then said if we would all three call on him the next saturday, he would endeavour to settle matters between us. In the evening I met Mrs. Parry, and asked her if she would please to give me a direction, she asked me, to whom? I replied to your God, madam, for I think he must be very good nat'd to suffer you to trifle with him in this manner, you have twice protested to me in the most solemn manner, calling God to witness to the integrity of your heart, when you had no intention but of deceiving me. She said she must now go to meeting, but if I would meet with M — A — and afterwards with her, we would agree upon some terms or other. I waited for them near the place, and after the meeting was over I saw them coming together from the meeting. I asked M — A — what he mean'd by telling me one thing and the proctor another? you tell me that Mrs. Parry shall come to live with me again; but you told him you was willing to pay me what she owes me, deducting what I stand indebted to you, if you will do this I had much rather, and the proctor desires that we may all three come to him together, he said he did not chuse to pay me, that the proctor indeed mentioned some such thing, but he should not do it, neither would he go to the proctor unless I would take my oath that all I had said against Mrs. Parry was false, I flew in a passion, and asked if he did not think himself almost within the gates of hell, that he, a Jew, should persuade me to take a false oath. He then said, if I should only say that it was false, and that I had spoken it in haste when I was out of humour with her, he would go, to this I agreed, and we concluded on going all together on saturday to the proctor.

On the saturday morning I waited on my dear friend Miss A —, the sister of M — A —, who knew the whole transactions already related from first to last, and told her my intentions of discovering the whole truth of these two wicked wretches proceedings; which she much commended me for, saying, I was much in the right to act honestly and clear my conscience; and hoped it would be the means of her brother's leaving this woman which would not fail of being a ben-fit to the whole family as well as himself. We met all at the proctor's, in whose presence Mrs. Parry asked me this question, Mr. Nathan, you have both here and in other places spoke several words in prejudice of my character, pray now was that true, or was it not? I said, madam, do you think the words I then spoke are to be taken for truth, or the words I shall speak now? she replied, certainly, what I should speak now? I asked her whether she would choose my bare word, or an affidavit. she said to be sure she would prefer an affidavit, I answer'd, madam, you have got one! Oh! lord, sir, says she, he'll say any thing, pray where have I got an affidavit. I answered from your husband's bastard son, who was accused of being guilty with you; you made him take his affidavit that

it was false, and so you think to do so by me, but I believe you will find yourself mistaken, pray have you told this gentleman my last letter; you know in that I threatened to acquaint him with the whole truth, and now I am come to perform the promise, I then related to him so much of what has been before mentioned, as I could without taking up too much of the gentleman's time. Mrs. Parry and her philosopher were at first much shocked, (for guilty people don't like to hear the truth) at last our philosopher thinking himself in the club with his clothes bag companions, began to call me scoundrel, in the gentleman's presence, I answer'd him that a scoundrel was one who ruined a family, bringing them to beggary, parted man and wife, and made a bawdy-house of his friends dwelling.

The lady began, Mr. Nathan, says she, we have had Mr. Jones here, who has given evidence that you are writing against me, I said what business had you to bring him here, when you intended to come to live with me, now you must know I am not quite so blind as you thought me, but have discover'd your diabolical intention. You have been hard at work to dig a pit for me, but I fancy by this time you see yourself in it, but I believe Mr. Jones's evidence will be of little service to you, for he could not read what I did shew him, and of all the accounts of you which I have heard from your country folks, he gives you the worst character, and says further that Mr. Parry would never marry you, but through your artful hypocrisy, I then took out my papers, saying, what is contained here. I am ready to take my oath of the truth off, and do intend to publish it.

Now I was much surprized that the proctor all along acted so friendly a part by me, should countenance these wretches in their damnable scheme of making me swear to a falsity, and cant account for it no other way than Mrs. Parry was his client, he was willing at any rate to have her dark character white-wash'd, I now turned to the philosopher, saying thus, look here, sir, there stands the proctor, I now declare I never will give him any further trouble. If you chuse that Mrs. Parry shall come to live with me, and set me up in a shop, according to your agreement, very well, but then you shall give me your bond, to pay me for your board and lodging, for I will not trust to your word, or else pay me what she is indebted to me, and deduct whatever your conscience will allow you to say that I owe to you, I will not contradict it, but take the rest, be it what it will, if you will not do one of these I am resolv'd to print your whole proceedings, and dare say the charitable part of the world will buy my books for the sake of my poor distressed family, and I shall by this means get a little of my money back and be perhaps in some measure, at least able to recover myself from the ruin you have brought on me and them.

He said he would do nothing, I might print it if I would, but threatened me with the law; I told him I had nothing to lose, I was much in debt, that a jail was all the prospect I had at present,

and that was the worst that could befall me, be it as it would; but that while I adhered to the truth, I had no reason to fear the law, and I had not the least occasion to deviate from truth, in what I should publish concerning them, and therefore set them both at defiance.

I now turned to the Proctor, and thanked him for the manifold favours he had conferred on me, and hoped to always retain a grateful sensibility of them, and do appeal to this gentleman's candour when he has read my book, whether I have proved the man he was always pleased to say he took me for.

I now no longer gave M— A—— the title of a philosopher, as I had found him a fool, and likewise something worse. He took his paromour home to his father's to dine, in a few minutes after, I came in and asked Miss A—— for her father, but she desired I would say nothing to him, till I had first had a little conversation with herself, but at present she was so busy in entertaining her guest, that she had not time, for she said, there is one here who has been before hand with you, in this as well as in respect to the Proctor, so you had better call in the evening, which I did, but found Miss A—— was not at home, so I entered into discourse with the old gentleman, and told him what I intended to do; he endeavoured to persuade me from my purpose of printing these sheets, but in vain, I told him that unless his son would come to my terms, which have been before-mentioned, I certainly would do it; and that as his son had a power from me to receive all that was due to me, he must expect likewise to pay all my debts, and would (unless he gave me my power again) be arrested on Monday, for I was afraid he would go to my lawyer and pay him, and so get my papers into his hands, then I should have nothing to shew for what Mrs. Parry owed me.

But he was no longer a philosopher, (as the reader will see) for the next day he sent it to me, by Miss A—— his sister, who was very happy to deliver it up to me; and that her brother might be out of all danger, presented me with it before her father and step-mother as witnesses, with these words, "Sir, as you know I have always shewn myself your friend, I hope, that for my sake, you will not publish this affair, as it will make my brother appear so scandalous, if you do, you may depend on it, I'll deny that I know any thing of the matter, and will be more your enemy than I ever was your friend." I said, Miss, I am much obliged to you for your friendship, but if you are determined to withdraw it on this account, I cannot help it, but have the satisfaction to know that it is entirely out of your power to hurt me, and shall most certainly publish the whole affair. She then said, if I would not forbear to do it on her account, she hoped I would on her father's, who had always been my very good friend, in particular when the elders of the synagogue, who were in office last year, were angry with him for visiting
me,

me, and bringing his wife to see me lately, saying I was a bad person, and that it was scandalous to be in my company, &c. he had spoke much in my favour, and given me a very good character.

I answered, your father is a very worthy gentleman, and in this he acted very well, as he cleared his own conscience, in speaking of me as he knew I deserved. But as to these gentlemen to whom he spoke it, they knew no otherwise, but that I was such a person as they had represented me to be. This was one reason why I should print it, that if they would give it a fair and candid reading, it would open their eyes, which had been shut against me by malicious and false reports, and I made no doubt but their justice would induce them to recal me to their synagogue again, and if not I shall look upon them as they have done on me. I then thanked this worthy family for all favours, and so took my leave.

The next day my worthy Friend Mr. Myers sent for me, and told me that M. — A — — had been with him, and that as I knew he was fond of being a peace maker, he would advise me to make this affair up and not publish it. I said Sir you have done a meritorious action in making peace between me and my Wife, but the charity reaches only to her for while my wife was from me people pitied and sometimes gave her a trifle to support her and the children, but now they look upon it she has got an husband to take care of her and so take no further notice of Her.

I am not able to provide for her and the children, being deprived of the little I had, through the means of these bad persons, and unless Providence steps into our relief, the consequence will be that we must all perish together. Now I hope by making this affair public, to let the world see that I am not so much to blame, as they have thought me, and that they will have pity upon my poor distressed and helpless family, at least so far as to purchase my books.

You may remember, likewise, sir, that you made me promise you to speak the truth, though it should be against my father, or yours, now by publishing this, I shall likewise perform my promise to yourself. I thanked him for all his kindness and took my leave of him. the next day after I met Mr. Mordicai, who told me he had seen M — A — — and talked with him about this affair, and advised him to comply with my terms of p yment, for that he very well knew the contents of what I intended to publish, and that he well knew that they were true, and asked him how he could be guilty of so much deceit, as to make me go after an house, which he knew I did because he himself went with me, when they had no intent to take it for me, but only to amuse me in order to make me forswear Myself. He said that M — A — — frankly had confessed that they had no design of taking the house, or that she should ever come and live with me again, but that it was all a trick, however, as to coming to my terms, it was not in his power, so I must do as I pleased. I am now to beg pardon of the world for hiding this dark and iniquitous af-

fair

fair from them, so long, and entertaining so bad an opinion of me, as I hope their candour and justice will allow after they have given this a fair and impartial reading, that I do not deserve, although I acknowledge myself much to blame in many respects particularly in suffering myself so long to be the dupe of this Jezebel.

The reader may perhaps be desirous before I take my leave of him, that I should give him some description of the person of Mrs. Parry, and her diabolical friend: As to him, he is well known by the Jews, and he is not worth a Christian's notice. But of the Lady's person we will endeavour to say something. She is about thirty years of age, tall and genteel, of a fallow complexion, black eyes dark hair and eye-brows, a little pug-nosed, dresses in the fashion, very mild spoken, can cry with one eye and laugh with the other, as she one day shewed me, is (as the Prophet Jeremiah says of the human heart) deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked.

As I am in very great distress, of circumstances, and consequently my mind much perplexed, I hope the reader will in charity forgive any incorrect sentence he meets with, as I am persuaded he will see many; and let the truth of what has been related atone for the inelegance of stile. I have not time, (nor at present) inclination to say any more, but in my next, he will possibly meet with things that will to him be quite new, and very surprising.

F I N I S.

...and entering into an opinion of me
...I do not believe, although I
...in many respects particularly in
...of this country.
...take my leave of him,
...the person of Miss Fanny.
...well known to me
...But Miss Fanny's
...She is a very young
...dark eyes dark
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